

VITAL STATISTICS.

Marriages in Victoria can only be celebrated by a minister of religion whose name is registered in the office of the Government Statist, by the Government Statist, or the Assistant Government Statist, or by a duly appointed registrar of marriages. Law as to marriages in Victoria. It is essential that every marriage be preceded by the parties making a declaration as to age and the absence of any legal impediment, and by three days' notice, except in cases of emergency, also that two witnesses be present at the ceremony; but there is no residential qualification. To be married by a minister, one of the parties must give him at least three days' written notice, or—in cases of emergency—a written permission obtained from any Justice, dispensing with such notice; and the marriage may then be solemnized according to the rites of the religious denomination to which the minister belongs. To be married by a Registrar of Marriages, the parties to the marriage must give written notice, which has to be posted in, and a copy thereof at the outer door of, his office at least three days before the marriage. This can only take place in his office, with open doors, and between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. No fee is payable for the celebration of a marriage before a registrar. In the event of a minor (not being a widower or widow), wishing to marry, there must be obtained the written consent (*a*) of the father if he be within Victoria; if not (*b*) of a guardian appointed by him; if there be no such guardian (*c*) of the mother if within Victoria; if the parent be incapable of consenting, or if there be no such parent or guardian in Victoria (*d*) of a police magistrate, or a justice appointed for the purpose by the Chief Justice or a Judge of the Supreme Court. If the mother has been deserted by the father, or has obtained a protection order against him, or if, through divorce or judicial separation, she has become the guardian *de facto*, her consent is sufficient authority for the marriage. If the minor is a ward of the Neglected Children's or Reformatory Schools' Department, the Departmental Secretary's consent is the authority. In all cases a statement to the effect that the consent has been obtained must be made on the marriage certificate. In order to guard against the celebration of marriages by undesirable persons, the present law provides that no person shall be registered as a minister of religion unless he ordinarily officiates as such in one of the recognised religious denominations, is nominated by the recognised head of the denomination in Victoria, or, if there be no such head, then by at least two registered ministers; and unless he satisfies the Government Statist that he is a fit and proper person to celebrate marriages. The Governor in Council may prohibit from celebrating marriages any minister who is proved guilty of any offence, misconduct, or impropriety unworthy of his calling, or who makes a

business of celebrating marriages for the purpose of profit or gain, irrespective of carrying out the ordinary duties of a minister; and the Government Statist may, at the request of the head of a denomination, cancel the registration of any minister of the same denomination who ceases to officiate or otherwise loses his qualifications. Any clergyman or person officiating as such who celebrates a marriage without being duly registered, or any person who obtains registration by untruly representing himself as an officiating minister, or who personates a registrar, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, punishable by a penalty not exceeding £500, or by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or by both; but, if the omission were accidental, the penalty is reduced to a maximum of £20 on summary conviction. To guard against the abuse of the system of matrimonial agencies, the Governor in Council is empowered, if deemed expedient, to prohibit ministers from celebrating marriages in any undesirable place or building; and ministers are now practically prevented from entering into business relations with such agencies. No marriage shall be invalid by reason of its having been celebrated by an unqualified person if either of the parties shall have believed at the time that such person was qualified, or by reason of any formal defect or irregularity. Marriage with a deceased wife's sister was legalised in Victoria in 1873; but there is no provision to validate the marriage of a woman with a deceased husband's brother.

Marriages of Jews and Quakers are exempted from the foregoing provisions, and are deemed legal and valid if celebrated according to their respective usages.

Registra-
tion.

The present official system of compulsory registration of births, deaths and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853, and the registers—framed on the best models—are replete with all necessary information bearing on the family history of the people. The statutory duties under the Registration Acts are performed by the Government Statist, who has control over the local registrars of births and deaths, and (so far as regards their registration duties) over the officiating clergymen and registrars of marriages. Copies of entries certified by him or by the Assistant Government Statist are *primâ facie* evidence in the Courts of Australia of the facts to which they relate. At the head office in Melbourne there is kept for reference a complete collection of all registrations effected since 1st July, 1853, as well as originals or certified copies of all existing church records relating to earlier periods, as far back as 1837. For the registration of births and deaths, the State is divided into about 550 registration districts, for each of which a registrar is appointed, who (if not a public servant) is paid by fees at the rate of 2s. 6d. per entry, but is not prevented from following his or her own private business; whilst the marriages are recorded by the clergyman or registrar of marriages who performs the ceremony. Registrations of marriages are made in triplicate, and of births and deaths in duplicate—each copy bearing the original signatures of the parties married.

and witnesses (in case of a marriage), or of the informant (in case of a birth or death), and of the minister or registrar. One copy is retained by the registrar or minister; one is forwarded to the Government Statist—to be kept as a permanent record; and the third (in case of marriage only) is given to one of the parties married. Births must be registered within 60 days by the father or mother or the occupier of the house where the birth occurred, or by some person authorized by one of these. A person who fails in his duty to register within 60 days is liable to a penalty of £10, although he still may register within twelve months on payment of a fee of 5s. To insure registration of all births, parents and the occupiers of houses where births occur are required to, and doctors and nurses may, and are expected to, report cases to the registrars. After twelve months, registration can only be effected after proper legal authority has been obtained, and on payment of a fee of 10s. Deaths must, under a penalty of £10, be notified within seven days to the local registrar by the father or mother or the occupier of the house where the death occurred, or the doctor or nurse, and must be registered within twenty-one days by some person present at death or in attendance during the last illness, or in default of such persons by the occupier of the house where the death occurred, or by some person authorized by one of these. An exception is made in regard to sudden deaths, and deaths of boarded-out children under the age of 5 years, which should be at once reported to the Coroner, and can only be registered by him or on his authority. This exception does not apply to wards of the State or infants retained by or received into any approved public charitable institution. In addition to ordinary registration, every birth, or death under the age of 5, of an illegitimate child must be notified in writing by the occupier of the house where the event occurred within three days to the local registrar, if in any city, town, or borough, or within seven days to the local registrar or police officer in charge, if elsewhere, provided that if the mother is the occupier, the period for notification is extended to three weeks. Offenders against this provision are liable to imprisonment for six months, or to a penalty of £25. Illegitimate children may be legitimized within six months of the marriage of the parents on application to the Government Statist or to any Registrar of Births and Deaths, and on the payment of fees varying from 5s. to 12s. 6d. Applicants for searches or certificates of births, deaths, or marriages should, in applying to the Government Statist, furnish particulars of the date and place of the event; also the names of the parties in the case of a marriage, or the name, age (if a death), and parentage in the case of a birth or death. The fee for a search in the Official Records, or an extract of an entry, is 2s. 6d., and that for a certificate 7s. 6d. (except where the case appears in the records of the current quarter, when 5s. only is charged). For a search in the early church records, prior to 1st July, 1853, the fee is only 1s., or 2s. if a certificate is required.

MARRIAGES.

Marriages. Marriages in Victoria in 1911 numbered 11,088, which was the highest total recorded, and 1,586 above the average of the preceding five years. The figures for each of the last twenty years are as follows :—

MARRIAGES IN EACH YEAR, 1892 TO 1911.

Year.	No. of Marriages.	Year.	No. of Marriages.
1892	7,723	1902	8,477
1893	7,004	1903	7,605
1894	7,029	1904	8,210
1895	7,181	1905	8,774
1896	7,625	1906	8,930
1897	7,568	1907	9,575
1898	7,620	1908	9,334
1899	8,140	1909	9,431
1900	8,308	1910	10,240
1901	8,406	1911	11,088

Between 1891 and 1894, a period of commercial depression, a fall in the number of marriages amounting to 20 per cent. took place. A slight recovery occurred in 1895, and with three exceptions this was followed by varying increases in subsequent years. The substantial nature of this improvement is indicated by the fact that after allowing for the increase in population 11,036 more persons were married in the past five years than in the period 1902-6. As the tendency to marry is necessarily influenced by the view taken of present and future prospects, the relatively large number of marriages in each of the past five years is an indication of the general prosperity of that period.

Marriage rates.

The ordinary marriage rate—per 1,000 of the total population—like birth and death rates similarly estimated, is somewhat unreliable in comparatively newly settled countries like Australia, especially in earlier periods, but as it affords a ready and approximate comparison between years not widely separated, the figures relating to Victoria are shown in the following table for the last ten years :—

MARRIAGE RATES, 1902 TO 1911.

Year.	Marriage Rate.	Year.	Marriage Rate.
1902	6.97	1907	7.64
1903	6.24	1908	7.37
1904	6.73	1909	7.36
1905	7.16	1910	7.83
1906	7.21	1911	8.39

The marriage rate in 1911 was the highest experienced during the past twenty-two years. The increase over the rate for the previous year was 7 per cent., the whole of which was due to the larger number of marriages in the metropolitan area.

The proportion of marriages to the population, to the unmarried men and widowers aged 21 to 55, and to the unmarried women and widows aged 18 to 50 in each census year, 1857 to 1911, are given in the following table:—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION AND OF SINGLE MEN AND WOMEN, 1857 TO 1911.

Year of Census.	Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.						
	Enumerated Population.	Number of Unmarried and Widowed.		Marriages.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of the—		
		Men (aged 21 to 55).	Women (aged 18 to 50).		Population.	Unmarried and Widowed Men (aged 21 to 55).	Unmarried and Widowed Women (aged 18 to 50).
1857 ..	383,668	88,456	18,128	4,465	11.64	50.48	246.30
1861 ..	513,896	98,665	24,009	4,528	8.81	45.89	188.60
1871 ..	712,263	77,078	40,836	4,715	6.62	61.17	115.46
1881 ..	849,438	77,250	75,098	5,732	6.75	74.20	76.33
1891 ..	1,130,463	133,576	113,276	9,007	7.97	67.43	79.51
1901 ..	1,193,340	123,691	137,267	8,468	7.10	68.46	61.69
1911 ..	1,309,950	132,642	158,556	10,984	8.39	82.81	69.28

NOTE.—The figures in this table relate to the twelve months of which the date of census is the central point.

The marriage rate for men in the last census year was the highest ever recorded, and the marriages in proportion to population were more numerous than in the preceding four census years. An examination of the figures for the seven census periods shows that the crude marriage rate is materially affected by the proportion of marriageable persons in the community. This is evidenced by the fact that the maximum marriage rate (per 1,000 of population), which occurred in 1857, was co-incident with the highest proportion of marriageable persons, while the minimum rate—in 1871—was associated with the lowest proportion of such persons. A further examination of the figures shows that the ordinary marriage rate is more directly affected by the proportion of eligible men than by that of eligible women in the population. Thus, the percentage of single women aged 18 to

Marriages to marriageable men and women.

Factors in marriage rates.

50 rose from 4.7 in 1857 to 12.1 in 1911, whilst that of single men aged 21 to 55 fell from 23 to 10 in the same period. After allowing for the more uniform distribution of males and females of marriageable ages in the later years, the decrease in the percentage of marriageable men coincides fairly closely with the decline in the ordinary marriage rate. The female marriage rates show that the chances of a woman marrying are now very much smaller than at any earlier period, except 1901, the proportion entering wedlock each year having fallen from about 1 in 4 in 1857, and nearly 1 in 5 in 1861, to 1 in 16 in 1901, and 1 in 15 in 1911.

Marriage
rate in
age groups.

To further investigate this subject, it will be interesting to ascertain the marriage rates amongst marriageable men and women at different periods of life, and, with this view, the rates have been computed for various age groups between 15 and 50 at each of four census periods, and are shown in the following table:—

PROPORTION OF MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE MEN AND WOMEN AT EACH AGE.

Age Group.	Men.				Women.			
	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.
15—21 ..	..	..	..	..	24.6	23.6	18.8	23.3
21—25* ..	57.8	44.3	44.6	55.2	118.8	106.0	87.2	105.6
25—30 ..	114.2	85.9	90.5	118.6	105.7	100.5	84.7	112.1
30—35 ..	82.9	75.2	82.	101.1	73.1	66.4	57.9	66.0
35—40 ..	56.4	51.1	62.6	72.9	53.8	46.4	37.2	43.0
40—45 ..	30.5	33.4	39.9	44.7	32.5	27.7	22.3	20.7
45—50 ..	21.8	25.9	29.8	34.9	22.1	17.8	14.3	15.5
50 and upwards	10.5	9.1	9.1	12.1	4.9	4.2	2.4	2.6

* In the case of men 20-25.

In 1911 the proportion of marriages to marriageable men at each age (except 20-25) was the highest experienced, and the marriages to marriageable women were more numerous at every age except 40-45 than in the preceding census year. The men aged 25-30, 30-35, and 35-40 who entered into wedlock during the year under review represented 119, 101, and 73 per 1,000 respectively of the marriageable males at these ages, as against 90, 82, and 63 in 1901. The numbers of women aged 21-25, 25-30, and 30-35 who contracted marriage in 1911 were equal to 105, 112, and 66 per 1,000 respectively of the single and widowed women, as compared with 87, 85,

and 58 for the corresponding ages in 1901. It thus appears that the chances of women aged 21-25 and 25-30 marrying within a year increased by 21 and 32 per cent. in Victoria during the last intercensal period. It will be noted that in 1911 the highest marriage rate among women obtained at the age period 25-30, whilst in each of the three earlier census years the maximum rate occurred between the ages 21 and 25.

The probabilities of bachelors and spinsters marrying and of widowers and widows re-marrying were obtained by comparing their marriages at specified ages with the respective numbers in the community at these ages at the last census. The marriages per 1,000 of the above-mentioned persons are given in the following table for the year 1911:—

Marriage rates of bachelors, widowers, spinsters, and widows.

MARRIAGES, PER 1,000, BACHELORS, WIDOWERS, SPINSTERS, AND WIDOWS, 1911.

Age Group.	Marriages to every 1,000.			
	Bachelors.	Widowers.	Spinsters.	Widows.
15—21 .. .. .	..	..	22·3	40·0
21—25*	55·3	64·5	105·3	145·6
25—30	118·8	120·1	111·1	147·6
30—35	99·6	151·2	63·8	80·8
35—40	69·0	113·2	38·9	60·5
40—45	38·1	94·4	16·5	30·7
45—50	27·0	66·8	12·6	17·2
50 and upwards	7·4	16·8	3·7	2·3

* In the case of men, 20-25.

The figures show that the probability of a widower marrying within a year is greater than that of a bachelor of similar age, and, further, that the difference in favour of the former is much greater at ages over 30 than at earlier ages. Comparing the marriage rates for widows with that for spinsters it is seen that at every age under 50 the chance of a widow marrying is considerably greater than that of a spinster of the same age. As 76 per cent. of the widowers and 78 per cent. of the widows are over 50 years—a period of life when the chance of re-marrying is small—and the great majority of the bachelors and spinsters are under that age—a period when the probability of marrying is much greater—it follows that the rate for each of the two former sections is much lower than that for each of the latter. In proportion to their respective numbers, the marriages of

widowers were only slightly more than half as numerous as those of bachelors, and those of widows were only about one-fifth those of spinsters.

The ages of bridegrooms and brides who were married in 1911 are shown in combination for various groups in the following table:—

AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION IN VICTORIA,
1911.

Ages of Bride- grooms.	Ages of Brides.														Total Bridegrooms.			
	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.		60 to 65.	65 to 70.	70 to 75.
16	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
17	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
18	...	2	11	11	6	5	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
19	2	2	10	29	20	15	21	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	102
20	1	6	21	24	44	44	61	14	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	218
21 to 25	2	24	76	190	261	300	1,511	435	41	7	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	2,849
25 to 30	4	14	34	79	129	191	1,631	1,407	248	52	5	4	...	...	...	...	...	3,798
30 to 35	...	3	11	24	29	64	497	707	381	110	28	6	2	...	...	...	...	1,862
35 to 40	...	2	5	5	7	24	148	299	249	183	37	6	3	3	...	...	...	971
40 to 45	1	1	1	2	3	5	57	111	137	115	50	27	2	...	1	...	...	513
45 to 50	...	...	...	2	3	...	21	56	55	75	60	60	11	2	1	...	...	346
50 to 55	...	...	1	...	...	...	5	15	28	35	41	39	24	4	3	...	...	195
55 to 60	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	8	10	14	18	8	5	3	1	...	72
60 to 65	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	10	14	6	6	5	2	1	...	49
65 to 70	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	3	6	3	5	6	6	5	2	...	44
70 to 75	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	1	...	3	3	1	3	13
75 and over	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	1	2	1	2	...	1	...	10
Total Brides	10	54	174	366	502	649	3,960	3,055	1,157	606	255	174	66	27	19	8	6	11,088

The ages of bridegrooms ranged from 16 to 80 years, and those of brides from 15 to over 70. Although age inequalities among contracting parties were relatively few, they were striking in degree. Thus a man between 65 and 70 married a girl of 20, while four women between 45 and 50 were married to men who were their juniors by 20 years. The great majority of the parties were, however, of suitable ages. Of every 1,000 men married during the year, 716 were older and 177 younger than their brides, and 107 were of the same age as their partners.

The proportions of both sexes marrying in the various age groups are shown in the following table for the averages of the periods 1881-90 and 1905-9, also for the year 1911:—

Proportion of marriages at various ages.

PROPORTION OF MALES AND FEMALES MARRYING AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1881-90, 1905-9, AND 1911.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total.					
	Bridegrooms.			Brides.		
	1881-90.	1905-9.	1911.	1881-90.	1905-9.	1911.
Under 15 ... ..	...	...	...	.15	.17	...
15 to 16 ... ..	...	...	...	1.17	.96	...
16 to 17 ... ..	.03	.09	.18	6.53	4.83	4.87
17 to 18 ... ..	.29	.41	.27	20.32	14.21	15.69
18 to 19	1.46	2.80	3.69	42.94	31.95	33.01
19 to 20	5.62	8.48	9.20	65.03	45.76	45.28
20 to 21	15.19	14.69	19.66	73.84	56.55	58.53
21 to 25	321.02	254.52	256.95	432.34	368.20	357.15
25 to 30	365.48	327.51	342.54	223.83	266.62	275.53
30 to 35	134.57	174.97	167.94	62.07	108.23	104.34
35 to 40	58.29	102.63	87.57	29.53	52.83	54.66
40 to 45	32.54	53.30	46.27	17.10	25.73	23.00
45 to 50	24.77	29.20	31.20	12.23	12.74	15.69
50 to 55	18.40	12.95	17.58	6.74	5.99	5.95
55 to 60	11.49	7.16	6.49	3.40	2.13	2.43
60 and over	10.85	11.23	10.46	2.78	3.10	2.97
Total	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00

It will be observed that the age constitution of brides shows a very marked alteration in recent years. Of every 1,000 women who were married during 1911, 515 were under 25 years, and 275 were aged 25-30, as against 642 and 224 at corresponding ages in 1881-1890. As the fertility of married women is considerably less at older than at younger ages, it is evident that owing to the altered age distribution of wives the potential births to every 1,000 marriages in the year under review are fewer than to marriages contracted during 1881-1890.

A high proportion of re-marriages has the effect of increasing the average marrying age of bridegrooms and brides. This is readily seen by comparing for 1911 the mean age at marriage of bachelors 28.89—with that of divorced men and of widowers—40.52 and 46.63 respectively. The average age of spinsters marrying was 25.44, as against 35.60 for divorced women and 40.65 for widows. Although the ratio of re-marriages has declined, the average age of men marrying women under 45 and of their brides has increased considerably during the past three decades. The average age at marriage

Age at marriage.

for certain periods during the past forty years is shown in the following table:—

MEAN AGES AT MARRIAGE.

Period.	Average Age of—	
	Brides under 45.	Bridegrooms of Brides under 45.
	years.	years.
1870-4	24.13	29.93
1880-4	23.83	28.61
1890-4	24.66	28.66
1900-4	25.44	29.70
1905	25.77	29.76
1906	25.97	29.90
1907	25.82	29.78
1908	25.85	29.77
1909	25.99	29.78
1910	25.88	29.58
1911	25.54	29.46

The most notable feature of the figures for 1911 is the marked alteration in the average age of brides, which was about six months below that for 1909. Notwithstanding this improvement, the brides of last year were on the average $1\frac{3}{4}$ years older than those of thirty years ago. For Victoria in 1911 the mean marrying age of all brides was 26.24, as compared with 26.69 in England and Wales and 26.32 in New Zealand. The mean ages of all bridegrooms in the same countries were 30.09, 28.88, and 29.91 years respectively. For women the mean age at marriage is somewhat similar in the three countries, but for men it is less by over a year in England and Wales than in Victoria and New Zealand.

In the following table are shown the marriage rates per 1,000 of the population in the Australian States and New Zealand for the period 1902-6 and for each of the last five years:—

MARRIAGE RATES IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	6.92	7.33	6.15	6.73	9.02	7.58	7.11	8.26
1907 ..	7.64	7.84	7.58	7.94	8.02	7.91	7.78	8.91
1908 ..	7.37	7.97	7.22	7.84	7.50	7.74	7.64	8.82
1909 ..	7.36	8.21	7.96	8.30	7.54	8.13	7.86	8.33
1910 ..	7.83	8.81	8.05	9.21	7.75	7.98	8.37	8.30
1911 ..	8.39	9.18	8.41	9.82	8.45	7.77	8.78	8.67
Average 1907-11	7.72	8.40	7.84	8.62	7.85	7.91	8.09	8.61

In all the States, except Tasmania, the marriage rates for 1911 were the highest experienced during the past five years. By comparison with 1902-6, the marriage rates in 1907-11 increased by 11.6 per cent. in Victoria, 14.6 in New South Wales, 27.5 per cent. in Queensland, 28.1 per cent. in South Australia, 4.2 per cent. in Tasmania, and 13.8 per cent. in the Commonwealth.

The average marriage rate in Australia—8.09—for the period 1907-11 was higher than in fourteen of the twenty-one countries shown in the following table for the latest five years for which this information is available:—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Marriage Rate.	Country.	Marriage Rate.
Servia	9.86	Austria	7.76
Roumania	9.66	Switzerland	7.60
Bulgaria	9.62	Denmark	7.44
Ontario, Province of	9.30	England and Wales	7.40
Hungary	8.94	The Netherlands	7.32
Russia	8.30	Spain	7.08
Japan	8.28	Scotland	6.70
German Empire	8.00	Sweden	6.08
France	7.92	Norway	6.04
Belgium	7.90	Ireland	5.15
Italy	7.84		

Marriage rates in various countries.

For reasons already given, a better and more reliable index of the frequency of marriage in the different States is a comparison of the marriages with the number of marriageable males, aged 21 and upwards. This is shown in the following statement for the period 1900-2 and for the year 1911:—

Marriages to marriageable males in Australasia.

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE MALES IN AUSTRALASIA.

	1900-2.	1911.	Increase per cent. in 1911.
Victoria	56.0	67.3	20.2
New South Wales	58.3	68.0	16.6
Queensland	41.6	54.9	32.0
South Australia	56.8	81.3	43.1
Western Australia	41.9	45.8	9.3
Tasmania	65.7	69.3	5.5
Total Australia	55.7	64.7	16.0
New Zealand	55.1	...	...

In each State the proportion of marriageable men who married during the year 1911 was greater than that for the period 1900-2, the excess amounting to 43 per cent. in South Australia, 32 in Queensland, 20 in Victoria, nearly 17 in New South Wales, 9 in Western Australia, and 5½ in Tasmania. The comparatively low marriage rates for men in Western Australia and Queensland were due to the unequal distribution of marriageable men and women. At the 1911 census, to every 1,000 unmarried and widowed women aged 18 to 50, the numbers of bachelors and widowers between 21 and 55 years of age in each State and Australia were as follows:—Victoria, 853; New South Wales, 1,116; Queensland, 1,449; South Australia, 946; Western Australia, 2,265; Tasmania, 950; and Australia, 1,096.

Marriage rates in districts.

The following table gives the numbers and rates per 1,000 of the population of brides and of bridegrooms, whose usual place of residence (if in Victoria) was in Melbourne and suburbs, other urban districts, or rural districts respectively, or was outside the State—during the year 1911:—

USUAL RESIDENCE OF BRIDES AND BRIDEGROOMS DURING 1911.

Usual Residence of Bridegrooms.	Usual Residence of Brides.				Total Bridegrooms.	Proportion of Bridegrooms per 1,000 of Population.
	Metropolitan.	Other Urban.	Rural.	Outside Victoria.		
In Victoria—						
Metropolitan Districts	4,744	196	312	64	5,316	8·9
Other Urban Districts	132	1,116	247	16	1,511	7·1
Rural Districts	494	384	2,765	30	3,673	7·1
Outside Victoria ..	261	74	123	130	588	..
Total Brides	5,631	1,770	3,447	240	11,088	..
Proportion of Brides per 1,000 of Population ..	9·5	8·4	6·7	..	..	..

Of the 458 men residing outside the State who married Victorian women, 200 were residents of New South Wales, 34 of Queensland, 51 of South Australia, 53 of Western Australia, 43 of Tasmania, 23 of New Zealand, 8 of the United Kingdom, 4 of South Africa, 5 of India, and 10 of other countries, while 27 were seafaring men.

Marriages to marriageable persons in metropolis and country.

The extent to which the higher crude marriage rates in Greater Melbourne, as compared with the country, are due to variations in age, sex, and conjugal condition may be ascertained by an examination of the results of the last census. The first striking fact disclosed is that, whether the comparison be made for all ages or for marriageable ages only, there is a great preponderance of women over men in the metropolis, whilst the reverse is the case in the remainder of the State. In Greater Melbourne there were 55,347 unmarried men aged 21 to 55, as compared with 84,238 unmarried women aged 18 to 50. In the rest of the State the eligible men and women at the corresponding ages numbered 79,925 and 74,318 respectively. It is thus seen that while there was a surplus of 28,891 marriageable females in the metropolis, there was a deficiency of 5,607 in the country. To obtain definite information regarding the frequency of marriage, the residents of these areas who entered into wedlock in 1911 were compared with the marriageable population of each sex and the resulting proportions are shown in the following statement:—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE PERSONS IN GREATER MELBOURNE AND THE REST OF THE STATE, 1911.

District.	Men.	Women.
Melbourne and Suburbs	96·0	66·8
Rest of the State	64·9	70·2

The results show that the chance of marrying within a year is slightly less for a woman residing in Greater Melbourne than for one living outside that area. On the other hand, the chance of a man marrying is nearly 48 per cent. greater for a metropolitan than for a country resident.

In order to obtain information regarding the influence of occupation upon the marrying age, the following table has been constructed. This has been based upon 42,764 marriages for the period 1907-11, in connexion with which the records gave definite occupations:—

Marrying age according to occupation.

AGE AT MARRIAGE ACCORDING TO OCCUPATION.

Occupation.	Number Married.	Average Age at Marriage.	Percentage Marrying at Age Group.			
			Under 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 and over.
Hairdresser, Tobacconist	334	27·65	42·81	45·52	9·28	2·39
Ironworker, Foundry Employé, &c. ...	824	27·78	42·72	45·76	7·76	3·76
Carter, Driver, Carrier ...	2,139	28·04	43·43	42·92	9·54	4·11
Blacksmith ...	876	28·37	38·47	47·26	10·50	3·77
Salesman, Storeman ...	1,147	28·86	30·34	56·06	10·81	2·79
Baker, Grocer, Butcher, Fruiterer ...	2,680	29·01	33·62	51·23	10·78	4·37
Jockey, Trainer ...	181	29·12	35·91	46·41	14·36	3·32
Labourer ...	7,172	29·28	35·11	46·79	12·90	5·20
Bootmaker ...	754	29·34	39·39	43·90	9·15	7·56
Coachbuilder ...	342	29·37	30·99	49·42	15·79	3·80
Miner ...	2,269	29·57	35·17	45·53	13·84	5·46
Carpenter, Bricklayer, Mason, &c. ...	2,772	29·64	35·82	44·16	13·31	6·71
Mechanical Engineer, Fitter, Engine-driver ...	1,739	29·79	28·23	54·46	11·79	5·52
Printer, Stationer, News-agent ...	695	29·89	30·06	49·68	15·53	4·73
Railway, Tramway Employé ...	1,331	29·86	27·88	53·12	14·34	4·66
Constable, Warder, Soldier	410	29·82	26·10	54·39	14·39	5·12
Tailor ...	754	29·94	28·91	52·79	11·67	6·63
Clerk ...	2,290	30·24	23·05	57·86	14·50	4·59
Cook, Steward, Waiter ...	352	30·26	30·68	48·86	12·79	7·67
School Teacher ...	339	31·67	15·04	63·72	12·68	8·56
Market Gardener ...	473	31·83	20·51	53·91	16·28	9·30
Civil Servant ...	539	32·11	24·30	48·97	23·19	8·54
Farmer, Dairy-farmer, Grazier, &c. ...	8,370	32·25	15·90	55·77	20·83	7·50
Commercial Traveller, Agent ...	1,316	32·32	14·74	57·68	18·69	8·89
Sailor, Mariner ...	395	32·50	24·30	48·86	17·22	9·62
Professional ...	1,207	32·69	13·67	58·99	17·56	9·78
Builder, Contractor ...	630	33·08	19·20	48·41	20·17	12·22
Brewer, Cordial-maker, Hotel-keeper ...	434	33·10	18·89	47·24	21·43	12·44

An inspection of the table shows that wage-earners marry at an earlier age than persons working on their own account and employers of labour. It should be remembered, however, that the average age of the persons in the community who belong to the two last mentioned classes is higher than that of the wage-earners. It is further shown that some wage-earners, such as ironworkers, foundry employés, &c., carters, drivers, carriers, &c., and labourers, who generally receive the highest wage of their occupations in comparatively early manhood, marry at an earlier age than those whose highest wage is reached at a later age, of whom clerks, civil servants, school teachers, mechanical engineers, fitters, &c., and railway employés may be taken as examples. This is emphasized by comparing the proportion of labourers marrying under 25 years of age, which was equal to 35.11 per cent., with that of school teachers (15.04), civil servants (24.30), and clerks (23.05) per cent. The group comprising farmers, dairy-farmers, graziers, &c., shows a late marrying age, and has, with three exceptions (professional, commercial travellers, and school teachers), the lowest proportion marrying at the earliest age division. The average age at marriage of this class is greater than that of hairdressers and tobacconists by 4.60 years; of ironworkers and foundry employés by 4.47; of carters, drivers, and carriers by 4.21; of blacksmiths by 3.88; of grocers, bakers, butchers, &c., by 3.24; of labourers by 2.97; of miners by 2.68; and of carpenters, bricklayers, masons, &c., by 2.61 years. The high marrying age of farmers, dairy-farmers, graziers, &c., accounts to some extent for the low marriage and birth rates in the rural division of the State.

Birthplaces
of persons
married.

The birthplaces of persons married in the years 1907-11 show that only a small proportion—equivalent to 18 per 1,000 bridegrooms and 6 per 1,000 brides—were born in foreign countries, of whom Germany contributed one-fourth. Of every 1,000 men married, 870 were born in Australia, 63 in England and Wales, 16 in Scotland, 14 in Ireland, and 19 in other British Possessions. The corresponding proportions for women married were 933, 32, 8, 7, and 14 respectively.

Marriages
in quarters.

The experience of the period 1881-1911 shows that the Autumn quarter is the most frequently selected season for marrying. During last year 27.4 per cent. of the total marriages were solemnized in the Autumn, 25.6 per cent. in the Spring, 23.9 per cent. in the Winter, and 23.1 per cent. in the Summer.

Former con-
dition of
persons
married.

The proportion of re-marriages has shown during the last forty-one years a continuous decline, owing to the decreasing ratio of persons who have become widowed at the younger and probable marrying

ages, and also to the later marrying age of bachelors and spinsters in recent as compared with earlier periods. The following statement shows the percentages of persons in each conjugal condition, who married in the periods mentioned:—

CONJUGAL CONDITIONS OF PERSONS MARRYING, 1871-1911.

Conjugal Conditions.	Percentage of total Marriages.				
	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-1900.	1901-5.	1911.
Bachelors and Spinsters	80·59	85·84	87·22	88·06	90·66
Bachelors and Widows	7·10	4·72	4·23	3·73	2·95
Widowers and Spinsters	7·75	6·17	6·07	5·94	4·71
Widowers and Widows	4·56	3·27	2·48	2·27	1·68

Of every 1,000 persons of each sex married in Victoria during last year, 64 were widowers and 46 were widows, as against 94 and 80 respectively during the decade 1881-90.

The number of divorced persons re-married during 1911 was 171, which was considerably above the average for the preceding five years. Of the 99,336 persons married during the last five years, divorced persons numbered 625, or 1 in every 159 persons, as compared with 1 in every 707 in England and Wales in 1909. The following are the numbers of divorced persons who have re-married in Victoria since 1906:—

Divorced persons re-marrying.

DIVORCED PERSONS RE-MARRYING, 1907 TO 1911.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1907	52	57	109
1908	44	58	102
1909	49	63	112
1910	59	72	131
1911	66	105	171

The divorced persons in the State at the last census numbered 1,240, of whom 575 were men and 665 women. A comparison of the re-marriages of divorced males and females during 1911 with these numbers shows that, according to the experience of that year, 11.5 per cent. of the males and 15.8 per cent. of the females re-marry each year. As these proportions greatly exceed the rates for other sections of the community, it is evident that many divorces are obtained with the view of early re-marriage.

Marriages of
minors

During the year 1911, the proportion of brides under 21 years of age in Victoria was the lowest of all the Australian States, and the proportion of bridegrooms under 21 was higher than in any other State except New South Wales and Tasmania. The percentages for each State were as follows:—

	Percentage under 21 years of age.	
	Bridegrooms.	Brides.
Victoria ...	3'30	15'83
New South Wales ...	4'59	22'92
Queensland ...	2'95	22'98
South Australia ...	3'27	17'07
Western Australia ...	2'55	21'60
Tasmania ...	3'81	20'33

These ratios show that in Queensland, New South Wales, and Western Australia between one-fourth and one-fifth, in Tasmania one-fifth, and in South Australia and Victoria about one-sixth of the brides were under 21 years of age. In England and Wales in 1909 the percentage of bridegrooms under 21 years of age—3.98—was 20 per cent. greater, whilst that of brides—13.67—was about 14 per cent. less than in Victoria.

Marriages in
religious
denomi-
nations.

The numbers and proportions of marriages solemnized according to the rites of the principal religious denominations and those performed by registrars of marriages for the average of the period 1904-8, and for the year 1911, are shown in the following table:—

MARRIAGES IN VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

Denomination.	Annual Average, 1904-8.		1911.	
	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Church of England ...	1,899	21.18	2,821	25.44
Roman Catholic Church...	1,387	15.49	1,864	16.81
Presbyterian Church ...	1,468	16.37	1,992	17.97
Methodist Church ...	1,382	15.42	1,749	15.77
Congregational Church ...	1,001	11.17	1,124	10.14
Baptist Church...	335	3.74	462	4.17
Lutheran Church ...	60	.67	67	.60
Independent Presbyterian Church	602	6.72	198	1.79
Free Christian Church ...	358	3.99	36	.32
Salvation Army ...	34	.38	37	.33
Jews ...	25	.28	44	.40
Other Sects ...	316	3.52	401	3.62
Registrars of Marriages...	98	1.07	293	2.64
Total ...	8,965	100.00	11,088	100.00

In 1911 there was a marked increase in the marriages solemnized according to the rites of the Church of England, the number being equal to 25.44 per cent. of the total marriages, as compared with 21.18 for the period 1904-8. Excepting the ratios for the Presbyterian and Methodist churches there were great disparities between the proportion of marriages celebrated according to the rites of each of the principal denominations and the proportionate number of adherents possessed by it in the community.

In 1911, 2.6 per cent. of the total marriages in Victoria were celebrated by lay registrars, as against 1.6 per cent. in the previous year, 1 per cent. in 1909, and about 7 per cent. in the decade ended 1890. The decrease which occurred between the earlier period and 1909 was due to the competition of matrimonial agencies which sprang up about 1894, and the increase of 160 per cent. shown by the rate for 1911 over that for 1909 was probably due to the provisions of the *Marriage Act* 1909 permitting the removal from the list of registered clergymen of the names of those who were making a business of celebrating marriages. The percentages of civil marriages in the Australian States, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom were as follows:—

CIVIL MARRIAGES.

Country.	Year.	Civil Marriages—per cent. of total.
England and Wales	1910	20.5
New Zealand... ..	1911	17.0
Western Australia	1911	11.3
Scotland	1909	6.7
Queensland	1911	4.3
South Australia	1911	3.2
Victoria	1911	2.6
New South Wales	1911	2.3
Ireland	1910	1.9
Tasmania	1911	1.1

The proportion of civil marriages in Victoria is smaller than in South Australia and Queensland, considerably lower than in Western Australia, and only about one-seventh of that in New Zealand, and one-eighth of that in England and Wales.

Marriages
at matri-
monial
and adver-
tising
agencies.

The number of marriages solemnized at matrimonial and advertising agencies gradually rose from 1,409 in 1898 to 1,701 in 1900, and fell to 1,188 in 1902, but it increased again to 1,353 in 1903, 1,502 in 1904, 1,792 in 1905, 1,941 in 1906, and 2,140 in 1907. In the following year it fell to 2,004, and there was a further decrease to 1,782 in 1909. About 20 per cent. of the total marriages were performed in such agencies in 1900, 18 per cent. in 1903 and 1904, 20 per cent. in 1905, nearly 22 per cent. in 1906, 22 per cent. in 1907, over 21 per cent. in 1908, and nearly 19 per cent. in 1909. As clergymen of the Congregational and Independent Presbyterian churches and of the Free Christian Church acted for such agencies the marriages in these denominations for 1904-8, as shown in a preceding table, are unduly numerous.

The clergymen who advertised prior to the passing of the Marriage Act of 1909 celebrated fewer marriages in 1911 than in the preceding year, although their marriages are still greatly out of proportion to their congregations. Such unions will, however, gradually diminish as the names of those ministers become less widely known.

BIRTHS.

Number of
births.

The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1911 was 33,044, of which 16,944 were of males and 16,100 of females. This was 1,607 above the number recorded for the preceding year, and 1,784 higher than the average of the period 1906-10. Still-births, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 971, and corresponded to a ratio of 2.9 per 100 infants born alive in 1911. The ratio for the metropolitan area was 3.7, as against 2.4 for the remainder of the State. There were 1,052 male to every 1,000 female births in 1911, as compared with 1,056 to every 1,000 on the average of the preceding five years. The figures for each year since 1891 are as follows:—

BIRTHS IN VICTORIA, 1892 TO 1911.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1892 ..	19,405	18,426	37,831	1902 ..	15,583	14,878	30,461
1893 ..	18,823	17,729	36,552	1903 ..	15,115	14,454	29,569
1894 ..	17,501	16,757	34,258	1904 ..	15,313	14,450	29,763
1895 ..	17,372	16,334	33,706	1905 ..	15,523	14,584	30,107
1896 ..	16,460	15,718	32,178	1906 ..	15,716	15,128	30,844
1897 ..	16,013	15,297	31,310	1907 ..	15,989	15,380	31,369
1898 ..	15,435	14,737	30,172	1908 ..	16,073	15,028	31,101
1899 ..	15,785	15,223	31,008	1909 ..	16,092	15,457	31,549
1900 ..	15,834	14,945	30,779	1910 ..	16,411	15,026	31,437
1901 ..	15,876	15,132	31,008	1911 ..	16,944	16,100	33,044

The increase in the number of births in 1911 was nearly equal to the total increase for the preceding seven years. In connexion with the decline in the number of births between 1892 and 1904 it must be borne in mind that during the intervening period Victoria suffered serious loss of population by emigration, principally to Western Australia.

In young communities, birth rates calculated per 1,000 of the Birth rates population are to some extent unreliable and misleading. In the earlier periods when, owing to immigration, the population consists for the most part of men and women at the reproductive period of life, the rates are obviously high. As time proceeds, however, notwithstanding that immigration of reproductive adults may be maintained, the proportion of such adults to the total population must diminish, and with it, of necessity, the birth rate. The following table shows the birth rates in Victoria from 1870 to 1911:—

BIRTH RATES IN VICTORIA PER 1,000 OF POPULATION, 1870 TO 1911.

Year.	Birth Rate.	Year.	Birth Rate.	Year.	Birth Rate.
1870 ..	38·07	1895 ..	28·46	1904 ..	24·42
1875 ..	33·94	1896 ..	27·19	1905 ..	24·57
1880 ..	30·75	1897 ..	26·49	1906 ..	24·91
1885 ..	31·33	1898 ..	25·51	1907 ..	25·03
1890 ..	33·60	1899 ..	26·14	1908 ..	24·56
1891 ..	33·57	1900 ..	25·79	1909 ..	24·62
1892 ..	32·51	1901 ..	25·72	1910 ..	24·20
1893 ..	31·18	1902 ..	25·05	1911 ..	25·01
1894 ..	29·05	1903 ..	24·28		

The varying proportions and age distributions of married women at reproductive ages in the population at different periods account in a measure for the reduction in the crude rate in the above table. The effect of these changes is shown on page 439.

Birth rates
in
Australian
States and
New
Zealand.

The births in Australia for 1911 numbered 122,369, as against 116,894 in the previous year, and 114,070 in 1909. Of the total births 33,044 occurred in Victoria, 47,677 in New South Wales, 16,991 in Queensland, 11,057 in South Australia, 8,095 in Western Australia, 5,444 in Tasmania, 31 in the Northern Territory, and 30 in the Federal Capital Territory. The following table gives the birth rates, calculated in the ordinary way, per thousand of the population in the Australian States and New Zealand for 1891, 1901, and each of the last five years:—

BIRTH RATES IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND:
FOR 1891, 1901, AND 1907 TO 1911.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1891 ..	33·57	34·50	36·35	33·92	34·85	33·37	34·23	29·01
1901 ..	25·78	27·60	28·28	25·09	30·32	28·40	27·05	26·34
1907 ..	25·03	27·14	26·87	23·82	29·24	29·68	26·44	27·30
1908 ..	24·56	26·77	26·71	24·59	28·90	30·36	26·20	27·45
1909 ..	24·62	27·55	27·24	25·48	28·68	29·90	26·61	27·29
1910 ..	24·20	28·07	27·31	26·38	27·89	29·87	26·73	26·17
1911 ..	25·01	28·68	27·66	26·89	28·25	28·63	27·23	25·97
Mean of 1907-11	24·68	27·64	27·16	25·43	28·59	29·69	26·64	26·84

Factors in
birth rates

All the States except Tasmania had higher birth rates in 1911 than in the previous year. The birth rate of a community is almost wholly dependent upon the proportion of wives at the reproductive period of life and their internal age distribution. As these elements, especially the former, differ widely in certain Australian States, the crude rates of the different States are scarcely comparable. An investigation of the results of the last census shows that to every 1,000 of the population of each State and of the Commonwealth the married women aged 15 to 45 numbered 106.0 in Victoria, 115.4 in New South Wales, 107.2 in Queensland, 109.9 in South Australia, 123.6 in Western Australia, 110.5 in Tasmania, and 111.2 in Australia. In the case of Victoria, the deficiency in the proportion of wives at the ages mentioned is accentuated by their comparatively unfavorable internal age distribution, the proportion at the younger and more fertile ages being smaller than that of any other State. A computation shows that owing to these differences the legitimate births in Victoria to every 1,000 of the population in 1911 were fewer by 3.5

than in New South Wales, by 1.4 than in Queensland, by 1.8 than in South Australia, by 4.2 than in Western Australia, and by 2.5 than in Tasmania, also that they were 2.0 less than in the whole of Australia.

On the average of the past five years the birth rate in Victoria was lower than in any other State. It was also below the rates in all of the following countries excepting Ireland, Ontario and France, on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available:—

BIRTHS PER 1,000 OF POPULATION, IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Births per 1,000 of population.	Country.	Births per 1,000 of population.
Russia (European) ...	47.7	New South Wales ...	27.6
Bulgaria ...	42.3	Queensland ...	27.2
Roumania ...	40.8	Scotland ...	27.0
Servia ...	38.9	New Zealand ...	26.8
Hungary ...	36.2	Switzerland ...	26.4
Austria ...	34.4	Norway ...	26.3
Spain ...	33.6	England and Wales ...	26.1
Italy ...	32.4	Sweden ...	25.5
Prussia ...	32.3	South Australia ...	25.4
German Empire ...	32.3	Belgium ...	25.2
Japan ...	31.5	Victoria ...	24.7
Tasmania ...	29.7	Ireland ...	23.4
The Netherlands ...	29.6	Ontario, Province of ...	23.3
Western Australia ...	28.6	France ...	20.0
Denmark ...	28.2		

Birth rates in various countries.

An accurate view of the alteration in the fertility of wives is obtained by comparing the ratio of legitimate births to wives at reproductive ages, and allowing for the difference in their age distribution at each period. The following table shows for Victoria the distribution of married women in six five-year groups in the last five census years.

Corrected birth rates per 1,000 wives in Victoria.

PROPORTION OF MARRIED WOMEN IN AGE GROUPS TO TOTAL BETWEEN 15 AND 45 IN THE LAST FIVE CENSUS YEARS.

Census Year.	Proportion in each Age Group to Every 1,000 Married Women between 15 and 45.					
	15—20.	20—25.	25—30.	30—35.	35—40.	40—45.
1871 ..	20.3	130.4	211.4	230.7	233.2	174.0
1881 ..	17.3	159.5	204.6	206.0	209.7	202.9
1891 ..	13.5	156.9	275.2	244.1	172.1	138.2
1901 ..	8.1	99.0	198.3	249.6	249.2	195.8
1911 ..	12.4	113.8	206.9	226.6	221.2	219.1

To estimate the effect which the alteration in age distribution had on the birth rate, the proportion in each of the above groups was multiplied by the average natality rate for the group according to a standard table—the standard used for this purpose being the Swedish table of 1891. The sum of the products for each census year represented the number of births which would have occurred in that year per 1,000 married women between 15 and 45 had the fertility of these women remained unaltered, *i.e.*, the potential births. The year 1871 was used as a basis with which to compare the four subsequent census years, and corrections were applied to the actual births (per 1,000) occurring in those years, so as to make them conform to the age constitution in the first-mentioned year. The correction factors were obtained by taking the number of births per 1,000 married women aged 15-45 which would have occurred in 1871 had the standard natality rates prevailed, and dividing this number by the corresponding numbers of potential births for 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911. The above method was applied to find what proportion of the alteration in the ratio of births to married women under 45 was due to causes other than varying age constitution. The last mentioned factor has been taken into account in the computation of the birth rates appearing in column 5 of the subjoined table:—

CORRECTED LEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES.

(1) Census Year.	(2) Married Women between 15 and 45 years of age.	(3) Legitimate Births.	(4) Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women 15-45.	(5) Corrected Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women 15-45.	(6) Factor for Correction of Rate in Column 4.
1871 ..	88,561	26,805	302·67	..	..
1881 ..	84,831	25,675	302·66	303·14	1·0016
1891 ..	120,700	35,853	297·04	281·98	0·9493
1901 ..	127,858	29,279	229·00	238·75	1·0426
1911 ..	139,398	31,080	222·96	231·50	1·0383

An inspection of the rates in column (5) shows that there was a fall of 7 per cent. in 1891 as compared with 1881, a further serious decline of over 15 per cent. in 1901 as compared with 1891, and a decrease of 3 per cent. in 1911 as compared with 1901, which were not due to variations in the age distribution of the married women

between 15 and 45 in the community. A further examination of the corrected legitimate birth rates appearing in this column shows that the births in 1911 to every 1,000 married woman of reproductive ages were 71 fewer than 30 years ago, 50 fewer than 20 years ago, and 7 fewer than at the preceding census period.

Legitimate birth rates (per 1,000 of the total population) for widely separated periods do not give a correct indication of the relative fertilities of those periods, unless the number of married women at reproductive ages, in proportion to the population and the age constitution of such women, have remained unchanged. In order to allow for the disturbance which may have been introduced through variations in these elements it is necessary that corrections be made in the crude rates. The factor to correct the result of changes in the proportion of married women between 15 and 45 is obtained by comparing the number of such women in the community at the period of observation with the number in a standard population. The method of obtaining the correcting factor for the disturbance due to the second element was explained in a previous paragraph.

Corrected
legitimate
birth rate
for Vic-
toria.

The following table shows the crude legitimate birth rates in five census years, the corrections to be applied thereto for the reasons mentioned above, the amended birth rates, and the difference between these and the crude rates. The standard used in the computation of the correction factors was the Victorian population of 1871. Corrected birth rates per 1,000 of the population in the years 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911 are as follows:—

CORRECTED LEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.

Year.	Enumerated Population.	Legitimate Births.	Legitimate Births per 1,000 of population (crude rates).	Wives aged 15-45, per 1,000 of population.	Correction factor for variations in—		Corrected Birth Rate.	Difference between crude and corrected rates.
					Proportion of wives aged 15-45.	Age distribution of wives aged 15-45.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1871	731,528	26,805	36·64	121·1	..	..	..	..
1881	862,346	25,675	29·77	98·4	1·2307	1·0016	36·69	6·92
1891	1,140,405	35,853	31·44	105·8	1·1446	0·9493	34·39	2·95
1901	1,201,341	29,279	24·37	106·4	1·1882	1·0426	28·7	4·40
1911	1,315,551	31,080	23·63	106·0	1·1425	1·0383	27·89	4·26

An inspection of the crude rates in the fourth column of the above table shows that legitimate births per 1,000 of population apparently declined by 6.87 in 1881, 5.20 in 1891, 12.27 in 1901, and 13.01 in 1911, as compared with the first census date. After making allowance for the disturbing elements known to exist, the apparent decline of 6.87 in 1881 is altered to an increase of .05 per 1,000, while the decline of 1891 is reduced from 5.20 to 2.25, that of 1901 from 12.27 to 7.87, and that of 1911 from 13.01 to 8.75 per 1,000 as compared with 1871. Between 1891 and 1911 there was a reduction of nearly 19 per cent. in the rate due to other than normal causes.

Births to
wives in
Australia.

The following table shows the legitimate births per 1,000 married women under 45 (not allowing for their differing age distribution) in each State and New Zealand in the three census years 1891, 1901, and 1911:—

LEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 45 YEARS OF AGE.

State.	Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women aged 15 to 45.			Decrease per cent in 20 years.
	1891.	1901.	1911.	
Victoria.. ..	297.0	229.0	223.0	24.9
New South Wales	298.9	235.6	235.4	21.2
Queensland ..	315.0	251.0	244.8	22.3
South Australia ..	311.1	235.0	235.9	24.2
Western Australia	352.8	244.0	221.8	37.1
Tasmania ..	315.9	254.6	244.8	22.5
New Zealand ..	279.1	246.1	..	..

It will be seen from these figures that between 1891 and 1911 there was a pronounced decline in the proportion of legitimate births to married women under 45 years of age in the different States, varying from 37 per cent. in Western Australia to 25 per cent. in Victoria, 24 per cent. in South Australia, and 21 per cent. in New South Wales. Slightly more than one-fourth of the total decline in Victoria during the past twenty years was due to the altered age distribution of married women under 45 years of age, and it is probable that this cause was also responsible for a portion of the decrease in each of the other States and New Zealand.

A reduction in the proportion of births to married women is not limited to Australia. Investigations made by the Registrar-General of England show that there were decreases in the ratios of births to wives of reproductive ages in nearly all of the undermentioned European countries during the twenty years ended 1901. The results of his inquiries were given in his Seventy-Second Annual Report, from which the following particulars are copied:—

Births to wives in European countries.

LEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES.

COUNTRY.	Proportion of Legitimate Births per 1,000 Wives aged 15-45 years.			Increase + or Decrease - per cent. in Fertility during 20 years.
	Approximate Periods.			
	1880-82.	1890-92.	1900-02.	
The Netherlands	347.5	338.8	314.6	-9.5
Norway	314.5	306.8	302.8	-3.7
Prussia	312.6	307.6	290.4	-7.1
Ireland	282.9	287.6	289.4	+2.3
German Empire	310.2	300.9	284.2	-8.4
Austria	281.4	292.4	283.7	+0.8
Scotland	311.5	296.4	271.8	-12.7
Italy	276.2	?	269.4	-2.5
Sweden	293.0	280.0	269.0	-8.2
Switzerland	284.1	274.0	265.9	-6.4
Denmark	287.1	278.1	259.1	-9.8
Spain	257.7	263.9	258.7	+0.4
Belgium	312.7	285.1	250.7	-19.8
England and Wales	286.0	263.8	235.5	-17.7
France	196.2	173.5	157.5	-19.7

The births per 1,000 wives aged 15-45 in Victoria for 1901 and 1911, as given in a preceding table, are below the proportionate numbers in all of the above countries except France for 1900-2.

The birth records for 1911 show that the proportion of parents born in Australia has increased by comparison with the ratio for even such a recent period as 1903-5. Unless affected by immigration, a further increase in this proportion may be expected in future years. In the year under review, over 84 out of every 100 children were born to Australian parents, and 97 out of every 100 to one or both parents born in Australia. Of the total fathers, 79.88 per cent. were born in Victoria; 88.11 in Australia; 1.29 in New Zealand; 5.66 in England and Wales; 1.39 in Scotland; 1.41 in Ireland; .31 in other British Possessions; and 1.83 per cent. in foreign countries. The corresponding percentages for mothers were: Victoria,

Birthplaces of parents of legitimate children.

84.30; Australia, 93.20; New Zealand, 1.28; England and Wales, 3.02; Scotland, .79; Ireland, .78; other British Possessions, .27; and foreign countries, .66.

Chinese and half-caste Chinese births.

The births to Chinese parents numbered 86, and the Chinese half-caste births (fathers only Chinese) amounted to 273 during the eight years 1904-11.

Ages of parents of legitimate children.

The average ages of fathers and mothers of legitimate children whose births were recorded in 1911 were 34.44 and 30.19 years respectively, which were 4.98 and 4.65 years above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides for the same period. The proportions of both parents in various age groups are shown in the following table for the year mentioned:—

PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS IN AGE GROUPS, 1911.

Father.			Mother.		
Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.		Age Group.	Proportion per 100 Births.	
Under 20	28		Under 20	2.73	
20 to 25	9.37		20 to 25	20.69	
25 to 30	23.57		25 to 30	29.32	
30 to 35	23.47		30 to 35	23.59	
35 to 40	19.36		35 to 40	16.17	
40 to 45	13.57		40 to 45	6.78	
45 to 50	7.26		45 and over ... ..	.72	
50 and over	3.12				
Total	100.00		Total	100.00	

It will be seen that on the experience of 1911, 50.01 per cent. of the mothers were between 20 and 30, and 39.76 per cent. between 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at corresponding ages were 32.94 and 42.83 per cent. Of every 1,000 legitimate births, about 27 were due to mothers under 20 years, and 7 to mothers aged 45 years and upwards.

Ages of mothers of first births.

The proportion of legitimate births recorded as first births was 27.42 per cent. in 1911, as compared with 26.22 in the previous year, 26.20 in 1909, 25.43 in 1908, 24.98 in 1907, 24.78 in 1906, and 21.87 per cent. in 1901, being equivalent to an increase of 25 per cent. for the period 1901-11. The percentages of mothers of first births at

various ages are shown in the following table for the last five years :—

PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS OF FIRST-BORN CHILDREN IN AGE GROUPS, 1907-1911.

Ages.	Percentage of Mothers in Age Groups.				
	1907.	1909.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Under 20	8.3	8.4	9.0	8.6	8.4
20 to 25	41.4	42.0	39.5	39.3	39.9
25 to 30	30.2	31.5	31.1	32.6	30.9
30 to 35	13.6	12.3	14.0	13.3	13.7
35 to 40	5.4	4.7	5.2	5.1	5.6
40 to 45	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

The experience of the period 1907-11 shows that of every 100 mothers of first-born children, 8.5 were under 20 years of age, 48.9 were under 25, 80.2 were under 30, and only one 1.2 were aged 40 to 45. These proportions are very similar to the ratios of brides in the same groups during the period dealt with, which show that 9.9 per cent. of the women marrying were under 20, 51.6 per cent. were under 25, 78.5 per cent. were under 30, and only 2.5 per cent. were aged 40 to 45.

The next table shows the number of births per 1,000 of the population in the metropolitan, the other urban, and the rural districts, for 1875 and each subsequent fifth year, also the averages of the years 1901-5 and the rates for each of the last six years:—

Birth rates in town and country.

BIRTH RATES IN METROPOLITAN, OTHER URBAN, AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1875 TO 1911.

Year.	Births per 1,000 of the Population.			
	Metropolitan District.	Other Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	Victoria.
1875	33.63	38.63	31.54	33.94
1880	31.19	34.21	28.72	30.75
1885	34.94	31.87	28.12	31.33
1890	37.71	34.43	28.93	33.60
1895	29.46	34.03	25.49	28.46
1900	24.54	32.29	24.26	25.79
1901-5	24.03	32.14	23.46	24.81
1906	23.58	32.90	23.40	24.91
1907	23.97	32.70	23.36	25.03
1908	23.68	32.43	22.70	24.56
1909	23.75	32.09	22.65	24.62
1910	22.99	32.21	22.31	24.20
1911	24.51	31.85	22.79	25.01

Of the three divisions of the State the metropolitan area was the only one in which the birth rate for 1911 exceeded the average of the previous five years.

Birth rates
in seven
principal
country
towns.

The birth rates in the seven principal country towns are shown in the following table for each of the five years, 1907 to 1911:—

**BIRTH RATES IN THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS,
1907 TO 1911.**

Year.	Births, per 1,000 of the Population.						
	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Geelong and Suburbs.	Castle-maine and Suburbs.	Mary-borough.	Warrnambool.	Stawell.
1907 ...	23·83	36·12	25·36	28·49	32·36	34·39	38·41
1908 ...	25·71	32·02	24·03	29·29	30·19	35·52	32·24
1909 ...	24·39	31·61	25·96	27·98	32·80	36·72	41·63
1910 ...	25·19	31·13	26·32	26·24	32·98	40·14	36·46
1911 ...	25·73	32·30	27·54	29·20	30·13	40·00	39·36
Average	24·97	32·64	25·84	28·24	31·69	37·35	37·62

On the average of the five years 1907-11, the birth rate in all of the above towns exceeded that of Melbourne and suburbs and that of the State. The highest rate prevailed in Stawell, and the lowest in Ballarat and suburbs.

Birth rates
in metro-
politan
municipalities.

The birth rates for 1911 in metropolitan municipalities (based upon the populations at the recent census), the rates for 1901 obtained by comparing births with population according to the census of that year, and the percentage increase or decrease in 1911 are given in the following table:—

METROPOLITAN BIRTH RATES, 1901 AND 1911.

Districts.	Births per 1,000 of the Population.		Per cent., increase + or decrease - in rate for 1911.
	1901.	1911.	
Oakleigh Borough	31·25	33·94	+8·6
Footscray City	28·21	30·05	+6·5
Northcote Town	24·40	26·00	+6·6
Richmond City	25·51	25·28	-0·9
Brunswick City	26·71	24·81	-7·1
Port Melbourne Town	25·26	24·59	-2·7
Williamstown Town	25·34	24·42	-3·6
Fitzroy City	22·58	24·40	+8·1
Preston Shire	26·76	24·06	-10·1
Prahran City	22·69	23·77	+4·8
Kew Town	21·54	23·43	+8·8
Collingwood City	26·46	23·36	-11·8
Coburg Borough	20·58	22·75	+10·5
Brighton Town	22·39	22·48	+0·4
South Melbourne City	22·10	21·71	-1·8
Essendon City	23·77	21·32	-10·3
St. Kilda City	18·59	21·10	+13·5
Malvern City	21·98	20·25	-7·9
Hawthorn City	22·67	20·16	-11·1
Caulfield Town	18·72	20·15	+7·6
Melbourne City	21·15	19·90	-5·9
Camberwell Town	19·17	15·24	-20·5
Greater Melbourne:—			
Excluding Births in Institutions	23·03	22·32	-3·1
Including Births in Institutions	24·85	24·51	-1·4

The birth rates were higher in ten and lower in twelve districts in 1911 than in 1901. The decrease for the metropolis as a whole was nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In view of the fact that the past five years have been marked by great prosperity and high marriage rates, and that the conditions during the years immediately preceding 1901 were much less favorable, it is remarkable that there should have been a decline in the metropolitan rate. In Camberwell, St. Kilda, Caulfield, Hawthorn, South Melbourne, Essendon, and Malvern, the births in 1911, in proportion to the population were below the metropolitan average, and this accords with the condition which prevailed in the previous census year—1901—when the number of births to married women of fertile ages in each of these areas was proportionately less than the average for the whole metropolis.

The next table shows the mean population, number of births, and birth rate in each Australasian capital city and suburbs for the year 1911:—

Birth rates
in capital
cities and
suburbs.

BIRTH RATES IN CAPITAL CITIES OF AUSTRALASIA.

Capital City and Suburbs.	Year 1911.		
	Mean Population.	Number of Births.	Births per 1,000 of the population.
Melbourne	594,250	14,563	24·51
Sydney	641,700	17,829	27·78
Brisbane	142,428	4,048	28·47
Adelaide	190,302	5,225	27·46
Perth	110,000	3,316	30·15
Hobart	37,868	1,157	30·55
Wellington	71,078	1,829	26·08

The average birth rate of the six capitals was 26.88 per 1,000 of the population, which was 2.3 per cent. lower than the rate—27.51—in the rest of Australia.

Birth rates
in cities.

The birth rates of the Australasian capitals for 1911 and of 28 other cities for 1910 are given in the following table:—

BIRTH RATES IN CITIES.

City.	Births per 1,000 of population.	City.	Births per 1,000 of population.
Moscow	35·9	Glasgow	25·1
Trieste	32·9	Melbourne	24·5
Bucarest	30·7	London	23·6
Hobart	30·5	Amsterdam	23·6
Perth	30·1	Christiania	23·5
Rotterdam	29·6	Munich	23·4
Brisbane	28·5	Milan	23·3
Dublin	28·3	Hamburg	23·2
Belfast	27·8	Stockholm	23·2
St. Petersburg	27·8	Venice	23·1
Rio de Janeiro	27·8	Dresden	21·6
Sydney	27·8	Berlin	21·5
Breslau	27·5	Vienna	19·9
Adelaide	27·5	Edinburgh	19·6
Budapest	26·5	Prague	19·2
Copenhagen	26·1	Paris	18·0
Wellington	26·1	Brussels	16·8
The Hague	25·4		

Although the birth rate of Melbourne was lower than that of any other Australasian capital it was higher than the prevailing rates in 15 of the other cities mentioned in the above list.

Twin and
triplet
births.

The numbers of cases of twin and triplet births in Victoria in the past five years were as follows:—

CASES OF TWINS AND TRIPLETS, 1907 TO 1911.

Year.	Cases of Twins.	Cases of Triplets.
1907	330	7
1908	288	3
1909	314	6
1910	318	3
1911	332	3

On the average of the five years 1 mother in every 100 gave birth to twins and 1 in every 7,166 was delivered of three children at a birth. These proportions were higher than in the decennium ended 1900, when the ratios were 1 in every 103 and 1 in every 11,893 respectively.

Under a section of an Act passed in 1903, an illegitimate child, whose parents subsequently marry, may, provided there was no lawful impediment at the time of birth to the marriage of the parents, be legitimized if registered for that purpose within six months after marriage. Up to the end of 1911 advantage was taken of this section to legitimate 476 children, of whom 14 were registered in 1903, 19 in 1904, 34 in 1905, 43 in 1906, 58 in 1907, 60 in 1908, 51 in 1909, 71 in 1910, and 126 in 1911. In addition, there were 247 children legitimated in 1903 under another section, which provided that if parents were married before the passing of the Act, the child should be registered for that purpose within six months of the passing of the Act.

Children legitimized.

Legitimation Acts are in force in all the States and New Zealand, the most recent being that of Western Australia, which was passed in 1909. The provisions of the various Acts are somewhat similar, excepting that the Victorian measure limits the period within which legitimation can be effected to within six months of the marriage of the parents, while there is no such limit in the Acts of the other States and New Zealand. Of every 100 children born out of wedlock, the numbers legitimized in Victoria during 1911, and in the other States and New Zealand during 1910, were as follows:—Queensland, 13.3; New Zealand, 10.4; New South Wales, 10.3; Western Australia, 8.6; South Australia, 8.5; Victoria, 6.4; and Tasmania slightly less than 1.

The number of illegitimate births in Victoria during the year 1911 was 1,964, which gives a proportion of 5.94 to every 100 births registered, as against 5.59 in the previous year, 5.92 in 1909, 5.76 in 1908, and 5.60 in 1907. The percentages of the children born out of wedlock in various countries are shown in the following table:—

Illegitimate births in various countries.

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK.

Country.	Year.	Percentage born out of wedlock.	Country.	Year.	Percentage born out of wedlock.
Sweden ..	1908	13.4	Victoria ..	1911	5.9
Denmark ..	1909	10.9	Tasmania ..	1911	5.0
Japan ..	1907	9.1	Italy ..	1909	4.9
German Empire ..	1909	9.0	Western Australia	1911	4.5
France ..	1906	8.9	South Australia ..	1911	4.2
Scotland ..	1910	6.8	New Zealand ..	1911	4.1
Norway ..	1908	6.8	England and Wales	1909	4.1
Queensland ..	1911	6.4	Ireland ..	1910	2.8
New South Wales	1911	6.2	The Netherlands ..	1909	2.7

The rate for Victoria exceeded that for England, and was double that for both Ireland and The Netherlands. It was, however, lower than the rates for New South Wales, Queensland, Norway, and Scotland, and considerably below those for France, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden.

Illegitimate births to unmarried women in Australian States.

While the proportion of illegitimate births in Victoria increased from 5.36 in 1891 to 5.58 in 1901 and to 5.94 in 1911, the illegitimate births were 100 fewer in 1911 than in 1891. It is thus seen that the increased proportion of infants born out of wedlock in 1911 was not due to greater laxity of morals, but to the smaller number of legitimate births. The morality of the community, as indicated by illegitimacy, is much more satisfactorily expressed by stating the proportion of infants born out of wedlock to the unmarried and widowed women between 15 and 45 years of age. Such proportions for Victoria are shown in the subjoined table for the census years 1891, 1901, and 1911, when the conjugal condition of the population was known:—

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 SINGLE WOMEN.

Year.	Single Women Aged 15 to 45.	Illegitimate Births.	Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Single Women.
1891	142,443	2,064	14.49
1901	167,760	1,729	10.31
1911	187,488	1,964	10.48

Although the proportion of illegitimate births to total births was nearly 11 per cent. higher in 1911 than in 1891, the ratio of infants born out of wedlock per 1,000 unmarried and widowed women fell from 14.49 in 1891 to 10.48 in 1911, which was equal to a decrease of nearly 28 per cent. in the intervening period. The illegitimate births per 1,000 unmarried and widowed women aged 15 to 45 in each State and the Commonwealth in 1911 were as follows:—Queensland, 15.5; New South Wales, 14.5; Western Australia, 14.0; Australia, 12.6; Tasmania, 11.9; Victoria, 10.5; and South Australia, 8.5.

The morality of the Australian community, as indicated by the proportion of births to single and widowed women of reproductive ages, compares very favorably with that of ten of the fourteen under-mentioned European countries, for which particulars are furnished by the English Registrar-General:—

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 UNMARRIED WOMEN AGED
15-45 IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.

Country.	Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Unmarried Women aged 15-45.	
	1890-2.	1900-2.
German Empire	28·7	27·4
Sweden	22·9	24·3
Denmark	24·5	24·2
Prussia	25·1	23·7
Italy ... ..	...	19·4
France	17·7	19·1
Belgium	20·6	17·8
Norway	16·9	17·2
Spain	17·5	15·5
Scotland	17·1	13·4
Switzerland	10·0	9·8
England and Wales	10·5	8·5
The Netherlands	9·0	6·8
Ireland	3·9	3·8

In 1911 there were 10.48 illegitimate births in Victoria to every 1,000 unmarried women aged 15-45. This proportion was lower than that for any other State except South Australia. It was also below the rates for all of the above countries, except Ireland, The Netherlands, England and Wales, and Switzerland, for the latest date for which this information is obtainable.

It will readily be supposed that a larger proportion of illegitimacy prevails in Melbourne and suburbs than in any other district of Victoria, and that the proportion in country districts is the smallest of all. During the year 1911, in the metropolitan area, slightly more than 1 birth in every 11, in other urban districts 1 in 21, and in the rural districts only 1 in 43 was registered as illegitimate. The proportions in 1900-4 were 1 in 11, 1 in 18, and 1 in 38 respectively.

Illegitimate
births to
unmarried
women in
European
countries.

Illegitimacy
in town and
country.

DEATHS.

Deaths.

The following return shows the number of deaths—males and females—also the quarters in which they were registered and the proportion per 1,000 of the population, during the years 1907 to 1911:—

DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1907 TO 1911.

Year.	Total Deaths.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	September.	December.	
1907 ..	14,542	7,980	6,562	3,285	3,391	4,011	3,855	11·61
1908 ..	15,767	8,815	6,952	4,349	3,760	4,130	3,528	12·45
1909 ..	14,436	8,070	6,366	3,580	3,453	3,860	3,543	11·27
1910 ..	14,736	8,132	6,604	3,820	3,693	3,661	3,562	11·34
1911 ..	15,217	8,356	6,861	3,519	3,774	4,132	3,792	11·52
Average	14,940	8,271	6,669	3,711	3,614	3,959	3,656	11·64

The number of deaths in 1911 was 15,217, which was 273 above the average of the preceding five years. The seasonal mortality showed that the quarter ending 30th September was most fatal, the next being that ending 31st December, and the first quarter being least fatal. On the average of the previous five years the greatest number of deaths occurred in the September quarter, the second highest number in the first, and the lowest number in the second quarter. For every 100 female there were 124 male deaths during the past five years, although the sex proportions of the population were practically equal.

Death rates in Australian States and New Zealand.

For purposes of comparison the death rates per 1,000 of the population for each of the Australian States and New Zealand are shown in the following statement for the period 1902-6, and for each of the last five years:—

DEATH RATES IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	12·55	10·84	10·92	10·67	12·17	11·04	11·44	9·81
1907 ..	11·61	10·56	10·35	9·87	11·09	11·22	10·86	10·95
1908 ..	12·45	10·13	10·23	9·84	10·74	11·51	10·91	9·57
1909 ..	11·27	9·97	9·68	9·72	10·21	10·01	10·31	9·22
1910 ..	11·34	9·98	9·70	10·21	10·09	11·31	10·43	9·71
1911 ..	11·52	10·34	10·65	9·82	10·20	10·12	10·67	9·39
Average 1907-11	11·64	10·20	10·12	9·89	10·47	10·83	10·64	9·77

The death rate in Victoria, taking the average of the five years, 1907-11, was higher than in any other State, but this result was chiefly due to the larger proportion of elderly persons, amongst whom the death rate is very high. In any comparison of crude death rates of the different States and New Zealand, it is necessary to bear in mind the proportion of persons aged (say) 60 years and upwards in each community. This was accurately known at the 1911 census when Victoria had 735 persons aged 60 years and over per 10,000 of the population, as compared with 629 in New South Wales, 581 in Queensland, 706 in South Australia, 402 in Western Australia, 626 in Tasmania, 647 in Australia, and 705 in New Zealand. Of the persons who died in 1911, 38.8 per cent. were aged 65 years and over in Victoria, 30.8 in New South Wales, 25.1 in Queensland, 34.3 in South Australia, 15.6 in Western Australia, 32.1 in Tasmania, 30.9 in Australia, and 35.1 in New Zealand. It will thus be seen that while Victoria had a higher crude death rate, it had concurrently a larger proportion of elderly persons in the population and a greater percentage of total deaths due to persons aged 65 years and upwards, than any other State or New Zealand.

The following are the maximum, minimum, and mean death rates per 1,000 of the population in various countries for the latest five years for which these particulars are available, also the averages of the 25 years ended 1901. In all the countries except Japan and Ontario, there has been a noticeable decrease, and in Austria, Hungary, England and Wales, Germany, Prussia, Spain, Denmark, The Netherlands, and Italy, there has been a considerable decrease in the recent five-year period, as compared with the average of 25 years. The countries are arranged in order according to the average rate of mortality in the more recent period:—

Death rates
in various
countries.

DEATH RATES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Five Years, 1906-1910.			Average of 25 Years. 1877-1901.
	Max.	Min.	Mean.	
Russia, European (1901-5)	32.1	29.9	30.9	33.9*
Roumania	27.8	23.9	26.3	28.2
Hungary	25.2	23.5	24.7	31.8
Spain	26.1	23.3	24.3	30.2
Austria (1904-8)	25.1	22.4	23.2	28.4
Italy	22.6	19.6	21.0	26.2
Japan (1904-8)	21.9	19.9	21.0	20.5*
France	20.2	17.9	19.3	21.8

* 1881-1901.

DEATH RATES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES—*continued.*

Country.	Five Years, 1906-1910.			Average of 25 Years. 1877-1901.
	Max.	Min.	Mean.	
Germany (1905-9) ..	19·8	17·1	18·2	23·9
Prussia	17·9	16·0	17·3	23·5
Ireland	17·7	17·0	17·3	18·2
Switzerland (1905-9) ..	17·6	15·9	16·6	20·3
Belgium (1905-9) ..	16·5	15·8	16·2	19·9
Scotland	16·6	15·2	16·1	19·1
United States (registra- tion area) 1905-9	16·5	15·0	15·8	..
United Kingdom ..	15·7	14·0	15·1	18·8
England and Wales ..	15·4	13·5	14·6	18·9
The Netherlands ..	15·0	13·6	14·3	20·1
Sweden	14·9	13·7	14·3	16·8
Norway	14·3	13·4	13·8	16·4
Province of Ontario (1904-8)	14·3	13·4	13·8	11·3*
Denmark	14·6	12·9	13·7	18·1

* 1881-1901.

Comparing this statement with the previous one, it will be noticed that the death rate in Victoria—the highest in Australasia for the reason previously stated—is considerably lower than in Denmark and Norway—the European countries having the lowest rates. Emigration from the older to the newer countries tends to raise the death rate in the former, and to lower it in the latter. In consequence of this, the crude death rates, calculated on the total population, will naturally be on a lower level in Australasia than in Europe, yet it may be safely affirmed that the true rate of mortality, allowing for differences in the age constitution of the people, is considerably lighter in Australasia than in any country in Europe, except, perhaps, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and The Netherlands.

Age
distribution
and crude
death rates.

Comparisons of the crude death rates of a country for different periods, or of different countries for the same period, are frequently misleading, as they do not allow for variations in the age distributions of the population. In European countries, the proportion of elderly people, among whom the death rate is heavy, is higher than in the Commonwealth and each of the Australian States, and it is greater in Victoria, and lower in Western Australia, than in any of the other States. The proportions living at various age groups at the last census in each division of the Commonwealth and New Zealand, and

those in 1890 in Sweden—a country which fairly represents European conditions—are shown in the following table:—

PROPORTIONS LIVING AT FIVE AGE GROUPS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, AND SWEDEN.

Country.	Proportion per 10,000 of Population living at the Age Group—					Total.
	Under 1 year.	1 to 20	20 to 40	40 to 60	60 and over	
Victoria	235	3,837	3,173	2,020	735	10,000
New South Wales	274	3,926	3,358	1,813	629	10,000
Queensland	269	4,083	3,285	1,782	581	10,000
South Australia	256	3,901	3,304	1,833	706	10,000
Western Australia	266	3,646	3,682	2,004	402	10,000
Tasmania	279	4,243	3,069	1,783	626	10,000
Australia	260	3,914	3,297	1,882	647	10,000
New Zealand	241	3,763	3,600	1,691	705	10,000
Sweden	255	3,980	2,696	1,923	1,146	10,000

The above figures show that the characteristic features of Australian populations, as compared with those of European countries, are a large preponderance of persons at the age group 20-40, and a relatively small number at ages 60 and over. Among the Australian States, Victoria and Western Australia are conspicuous by having the highest and lowest proportions respectively of persons aged 60 years and upwards—a point which should be kept in view when comparing their crude death rates.

The differences shown in the preceding table in the age constitutions of the populations of the six States and New Zealand have been taken into account in computing their respective indexes of mortality for the last two census years. The index figures for each are based upon an age distribution corresponding to that of Sweden in 1890, which has been adopted by statisticians as a standard for this purpose. To admit of comparison, the crude death rates are also shown for the same years:—

Index of mortality.

INDEX OF MORTALITY FOR AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1901 AND 1911.

Country.	Crude Death Rates per 1,000 of Population		Index of Mortality.		Percentage Improvement in Index for 1911.
	1901.	1911.	1901.	1911.	
Victoria	13·22	11·52	15·63	14·31	8·4
New South Wales	11·68	10·34	15·33	13·13	14·3
Queensland	11·88	10·65	15·24	13·52	11·3
South Australia	11·22	9·82	14·30	12·15	15·0
Western Australia	13·36	10·20	17·89	13·49	24·6
Tasmania	10·45	10·12	13·82	12·90	6·7
Australia	12·17	10·67	15·41	13·52	12·3
New Zealand	9·81	9·39	12·42	11·80	4·8

The figures in the last column show that there was a substantial reduction in the mortality for each State during the last intercensal period. Compared with 1901, the index of mortality for 1911 was lower by 8.4 per cent. in Victoria, 14.3 in New South Wales, 11.3 in Queensland, 15.0 in South Australia, 24.6 in Western Australia, 6.7 in Tasmania, 12.3 in the Commonwealth, and 4.8 per cent. in New Zealand.

Death rates
at various
ages.

A reliable estimate of the improvement in the health of the community is obtained by comparing the death rates for each age group at different periods. Such rates for Victoria are given in the sub-joined table for the decennial periods 1881-1890, 1891-1900, and 1902-1911:—

DEATH RATES AT CERTAIN AGE GROUPS IN VICTORIA.

Age Group.	Deaths per 1,000 at each Age.		
	1881-1890.	1891-1900.	1902-1911.
<i>Males.</i>			
Under 5	44.79	39.29	26.73
5 to 10	4.06	3.36	2.16
10 to 15	2.65	2.20	1.87
15 to 20	4.03	3.28	2.72
20 to 25	6.35	4.79	3.51
25 to 35	7.72	6.60	4.75
35 to 45	11.23	9.03	7.81
45 to 55	19.28	15.32	13.48
55 to 65	33.25	32.90	25.38
65 to 75	61.13	62.99	59.04
75 and upwards	137.18	145.05	157.26
All ages	16.55	15.47	13.30
<i>Females.</i>			
Under 5	39.46	34.09	22.35
5 to 10	3.92	3.12	2.03
10 to 15	2.56	2.06	1.78
15 to 20	4.17	3.43	2.80
20 to 25	5.81	4.81	3.59
25 to 35	7.90	6.89	5.01
35 to 45	10.93	8.68	7.16
45 to 55	14.84	12.12	9.96
55 to 65	23.49	23.64	18.80
65 to 75	50.32	45.87	46.71
75 and upwards	129.00	124.33	131.77
All ages	13.56	12.36	10.66

The figures show that at all ages, excepting 75 and over for males, and 65 and upwards for females, very much lower death rates were experienced during the last decennium than in the preceding one. Compared with 1891-1900, the mortality rate for the period 1902-11

was lower by 33 per cent. at the age group 0-10, by 14 per cent. at 10-15, by 18 per cent. at 15-20, by 26 per cent. at 20-25, by 27 per cent. at 25-35, by 15 per cent. at 35-45 and 45-55, and by 20 per cent. at 55-65. The rates, other than those for very old ages, are comparable, and the marked decrease at successive periods points to a general improvement in hygienic conditions.

In the next table the annual deaths in Victoria per 1,000 of each sex at various ages are compared with those in the other Australian States, and in the Commonwealth, for the period 1909-11:—

Death rates at various ages in Australian States.

ANNUAL DEATH RATES AT VARIOUS AGES IN EACH AUSTRALIAN STATE, 1909-11.

Age Group.	Annual Deaths per 1,000 of Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.
<i>Males.</i>							
0-5 ..	24·04	23·76	21·53	20·31	26·73	24·05	23·40
5-10 ..	2·01	2·03	2·15	1·90	3·09	2·36	2·13
10-15 ..	1·68	1·75	1·92	1·34	1·84	1·49	1·71
15-20 ..	2·53	2·47	3·14	2·46	2·54	2·63	2·58
20-25 ..	3·14	3·22	4·38	3·05	4·42	3·63	3·43
25-30 ..	3·94	3·74	4·94	3·90	5·07	4·11	4·09
30-35 ..	4·72	4·35	5·42	4·79	5·91	4·44	4·76
35-40 ..	6·30	5·63	7·32	6·90	7·20	6·73	6·34
40-45 ..	7·97	8·13	9·30	7·86	10·64	6·86	8·40
45-50 ..	10·89	10·64	13·55	10·77	14·48	9·00	11·35
50-55 ..	14·63	13·28	17·15	14·91	16·12	13·28	14·49
55-60 ..	20·49	20·41	22·55	18·98	23·93	15·70	20·52
60-65 ..	32·04	27·94	29·16	29·95	30·21	23·33	29·28
65-70 ..	50·53	44·50	50·32	40·11	45·43	36·89	46·25
70-75 ..	76·20	70·60	65·82	59·63	78·10	53·49	70·20
75-80 ..	120·16	108·32	98·99	102·64	116·27	99·52	111·19
80-85 ..	171·92	158·63	152·59	155·53	155·83	158·83	163·58
85 and over	269·56	283·16	231·29	250·80	281·63	355·33	273·85
All ages—Males	12·82	11·15	11·46	10·79	11·42	10·84	11·60
<i>Females.</i>							
0-5 ..	18·89	20·05	19·08	16·24	21·66	20·91	19·39
5-10 ..	1·94	1·69	2·11	1·46	3·05	1·91	1·89
10-15 ..	1·51	1·34	1·34	1·47	1·86	1·97	1·46
15-20 ..	2·44	2·04	2·20	2·35	2·10	3·48	2·28
20-25 ..	3·46	3·15	3·44	3·45	3·76	4·23	3·40
25-30 ..	4·33	3·92	4·41	5·02	4·52	4·54	4·28
30-35 ..	4·92	4·40	4·68	6·05	5·15	6·54	4·69
35-40 ..	6·20	5·79	5·90	6·02	6·22	6·47	6·04
40-45 ..	6·58	6·06	6·94	6·05	6·62	6·54	6·36
45-50 ..	8·22	7·66	7·79	8·04	7·44	7·43	7·87
50-55 ..	9·90	9·98	10·13	9·60	11·58	9·93	9·93
55-60 ..	14·49	14·45	13·51	12·88	13·13	14·19	14·12
60-65 ..	21·62	20·67	21·89	19·19	17·72	18·18	20·73
65-70 ..	35·12	37·10	33·48	32·19	34·43	34·43	35·30
70-75 ..	59·07	54·55	50·18	48·98	55·53	52·95	55·22
75-80 ..	97·13	91·45	88·41	83·86	98·36	86·75	92·80
80-85 ..	133·47	133·49	137·58	123·76	130·53	138·35	133·94
85 and over	239·69	211·64	223·23	228·03	190·19	258·01	229·05
All ages—Females	10·17	8·83	8·34	9·20	8·55	9·71	9·23

A comparison shows that for the period 1909-11, the Victorian death rate for males at every age group between 5 and 50 was below that of the Commonwealth. For men aged 50 to 60 the rates were very similar, but for the five age periods between 60 and 85 they were lower in Australia, as a whole, than in Victoria. Among females, the mortality rates in the State were lower for four, and higher for fourteen, age periods than those for the corresponding ages in the Commonwealth.

Victorian
and English
death rates
compared.

The death rates of each sex at various ages in Victoria and Australia for the period 1909-11, and in England and Wales for 1909, are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES AT VARIOUS AGES IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, AND ENGLAND.

Age Group.	Deaths per 1,000 of Each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	Victoria. 1909-11.	Australia. 1909-11.	England and Wales. 1909.	Victoria. 1909-11.	Australia. 1909-11.	England and Wales. 1909.
0-5 ..	24.0	23.4	40.3	18.9	19.4	33.2
5-10 ..	2.0	2.1	3.2	1.9	1.9	3.3
10-15 ..	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.5	1.5	2.0
15-20 ..	2.5	2.6	2.8	2.4	2.3	2.6
20-25 ..	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.1
25-35 ..	4.3	4.3	5.3	4.6	4.5	4.4
35-45 ..	7.1	7.3	9.1	6.4	6.2	7.4
45-55 ..	12.5	12.8	16.7	8.9	8.8	13.0
55-65 ..	25.3	25.2	32.8	17.6	17.0	25.7
65-75 ..	62.1	56.2	73.5	45.7	43.6	61.4
75-85 ..	138.2	127.8	141.8	109.1	105.8	129.9
85 and up- wards ..	269.6	273.8	321.4	239.7	229.0	300.0
All ages	12.8	11.6	15.4	10.2	9.2	13.7

The low mortality rate at each age in Victoria, by comparison with that in England and Wales, evidences the healthy climate and the favorable social and industrial conditions of the State. A striking feature of the Victorian and Commonwealth mortalities is the light rate among infants and young children. The rate for each sex is lower in Victoria than in England and Wales for all age groups

except 20-25, and 25-35 for females. The superiority of the Victorian over the English rate is very pronounced for the age-groups 0-5 and 5-10, but it is less marked for the next ten years of life. For the age groups 20-25 and 25-35, the rates for males are lower, while those for females are slightly higher, in Victoria than in England. For each age period after 35, the death rates for both sexes in Victoria are lighter, and at some ages considerably lighter, than in England.

The usual place of residence of those who died in hospitals throughout the State in 1911 shows that the number of extra-metropolitan residents who died in these institutions in Greater Melbourne was 239, of whom 184 were from rural districts and 32 from urban areas, and 23 resided outside the State. The non-residents of large towns who died in hospitals situated therein numbered 376. Of that total, 350 lived in rural districts, 14 were from Melbourne and suburbs, and 12 were from outside Victoria. Only 2 persons who usually resided in Melbourne, and 4 from urban centres, died in hospitals situated in rural districts. From the above figures it is evident that the opportunities for hospital treatment in the metropolitan and urban centres are largely availed of by country residents, of whom 184 died in the metropolis, and 350 in other towns in the year under review.

Usual residence of persons who died in hospitals.

The extent to which the metropolitan and urban death rates are increased by residents of country districts dying in hospitals situated in these centres has been ascertained for the period 1909-11. The investigation shows that when such deaths are distributed according to the usual residence of deceased the resulting death rates among residents in the Metropolitan, Urban, and Rural Districts of the State are 12.20, 15.16, and 8.83 per 1,000 of the population respectively, as compared with rates of 12.56, 16.92, and 7.75 when calculated according to the place of death. The metropolitan and urban death rates, based upon place of death, are therefore .36 and 1.76 per 1,000 higher, and the rural rate, similarly based, is 1.08 per 1,000 lower than the rates in these divisions based upon the usual residence of deceased. The figures for the period referred to show that the mortality rate among country residents is very much lighter than that among residents of the metropolitan and urban centres, notwithstanding the migration of adults in the prime of life to Greater Melbourne. It would appear from the high death rate in towns outside Melbourne that many elderly persons following agricultural and pastoral pursuits leave the rural districts to live in

Death rates among Metropolitan, Urban, and Rural residents.

these towns, where they subsequently die, and thus increase the urban mortality rate. Another element which tends to reduce the rural and increase the urban rate is the location in towns of benevolent asylums, in which many deaths occur of persons who formerly resided in the country districts.

The results of the last census enable a comparison to be made between the death rates prevailing in Greater Melbourne and the remainder of the State. On the average of the years 1909-10-11, the deaths of metropolitan residents were in the ratio of 12.20 to each 1,000 of the population, as against a ratio of 10.67 for residents of the rest of the State. The apparent difference in favour of the country is 1.53, but a computation shows that when allowances are made for the unequal age and sex distribution of the people in these areas, the actual difference is greater—the deaths per 1,000 of population being fewer by 2.47 among country than among metropolitan residents.

Death rates
in principal
country
towns.

The death rates in the principal country towns for the years 1907 to 1911 are shown in the following table, also the average of the rates for that period:—

DEATH RATES IN PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS, 1907 TO 1911.

Year.	Deaths per 1,000 of the Population.						
	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Geelong and Suburbs.	Castle-maine and Suburbs.	Mary-borough.	Warr-nambool.	Stawell.
1907 ...	15·65	17·86	13·21	18·99	16·94	15·15	19·90
1908 ...	16·96	17·23	14·65	15·29	19·06	16·57	17·14
1909 ...	16·75	17·94	14·12	14·76	17·15	13·73	18·16
1910 ...	16·64	16·83	14·14	17·45	14·18	14·71	18·75
1911 ...	16·15	18·57	14·93	15·38	14·27	15·69	19·79
Average of 5 years ...	16·43	17·69	14·21	16·37	16·32	15·17	18·75

On the average of the five years, 1907-11, the death rates in all of the above towns were higher than in Melbourne and suburbs, and, as might be expected, they were considerably higher than the rate for the State, on account of the deaths in hospitals situated in those

centres. Taking the average of the five years under review, the lowest rate obtained in Geelong, followed by Warrnambool, Maryborough, Castlemaine, Ballarat, Bendigo, and Stawell, in that order.

The deaths in Greater Melbourne during 1911 numbered 7,615, and represented a rate of 12.81 per 1,000 of the population. Excluding the deaths in hospitals and public institutions, which numbered 2,618, the rate was 8.41 for that year. The mortality rate of the metropolitan area shows a marked decrease in recent periods. The deaths in the decade 1902-11 were 13.20 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15.76 in the decennium 1892-1901. The reduction in the rate represents a saving of 13,770 lives in the past ten years. Many factors have contributed to this result, but it is probable that the introduction of the sewerage system, the notification of contagious diseases, the destruction of insanitary dwellings, the improvement in the conditions of labour, the increasing supervision of the manufacture and sale of articles of consumption, the smaller proportion of infants and the greater proportion of females in the community, and the advance of medical science, have been mainly responsible for the decline. That the sanitary conditions of the metropolis have greatly improved is evidenced by a comparison of the death rates from typhoid fever, diphtheria, and tubercular diseases in the period 1902-11 with those of the preceding decennium. The following are the rates:—

Decrease in
Metropoli-
tan death
rate.

Cause of Death.	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.		Total Decrease in 1902-11.
	1892-1901.	1902-1911.	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1·654	1·170	0·484
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	0·446	0·333	0·113
Typhoid Fever ...	0·293	0·101	0·192
Scarlet Fever ...	0·033	0·021	0·012
Measles ...	0·215	0·036	0·179
Diphtheria ...	0·187	0·111	0·076
Total ...	2·828	1·772	1·056

The figures show that the lower death rates from the six above-mentioned diseases in 1902-11 accounted for over 41 per cent. of the total decline. It is impossible to state which municipalities have contributed most to this result, as their mortality rates from the

diseases referred to are not available for the earlier period. A comparison, however, of the general death rates in each for the periods under review shows that all divisions of the metropolis have, in varying degrees, shared in the improvement.

The death rates (based upon census populations) in each of the metropolitan municipalities for the decennia 1902-1911 and 1892-1901, and the percentage decrease in the intervening years, are shown in the following table:—

METROPOLITAN DEATH RATES, 1892-1901 AND 1902-1911.

Districts.	Deaths per 1,000 of the Population.		Percentage Decrease in the rate for 1902-1911.
	1892-1901.	1902-1911.	
Oakleigh Borough	16·88	12·62	25·2
Williamstown Town	12·93	11·00	14·9
Preston Shire... ..	11·30	10·65	5·8
Fitzroy City	13·12	10·50	20·0
Melbourne City	12·40	10·34	16·6
Brighton Town	11·41	10·02	12·2
Brunswick City	12·90	9·52	26·2
Collingwood City	13·59	9·43	30·6
Prahran City	12·36	9·45	23·5
Richmond City	12·83	9·38	26·9
Footscray City	13·05	9·24	29·2
St. Kilda City	11·03	9·28	15·9
Port Melbourne Town... ..	13·14	8·98	31·7
Coburg Borough	10·82	8·95	17·3
South Melbourne City	12·68	8·67	31·6
"Remainder of District"	13·13	8·39	36·1
Essendon City	11·06	8·33	24·7
Hawthorn City	11·21	8·41	25·0
Northcote Town	12·65	7·77	38·6
Kew Town	9·66	8·08	16·4
Camberwell Town	9·08	8·21	9·6
Malvern City	9·92	7·59	23·5
Caulfield Town	8·62	7·58	12·1
Greater Melbourne—			
Excluding Hospitals, &c.	12·39	9·31	24·9
Including Hospitals, &c.	15·76	13·20	16·2

The rates for municipalities do not include an allowance for the deaths of residents thereof in hospitals and other public institutions. The inclusion of these would on the average increase the rates for the later and earlier periods by 3·89 and 3·37 respectively. In the years 1902-11, as compared with 1892-1901, a reduction of 38·6

per cent. occurred in the death rate for Northcote, of nearly 32 per cent. in the rates for Port Melbourne and South Melbourne, of over 30 per cent. in the rate for Collingwood, of 29 per cent. in that for Footscray, and of nearly 27 per cent. in that for Richmond. Brunswick, Hawthorn, Essendon, Prahran, and Malvern had rates lower by 26.2, 25.0, 24.7, 23.5, and 23.5 per cent. respectively than in the preceding decennium. The decreases for Caulfield, Camberwell, and Kew were not so great, but they were probably as meritorious as in some of the above districts, having been based upon comparatively low rates in the earlier period.

During 1911 the deaths in public institutions in the State numbered 4,010, of which 2,618 occurred in the metropolitan area, and 1,392 in institutions outside the metropolis. As the total deaths in these areas during the same year were 15,217, 7,615, and 7,602 respectively, it follows that slightly more than 1 in every 4 deaths within the State, 1 in every 3 in Greater Melbourne, and slightly less than 1 in every 5 in extra-metropolitan districts, occurred in public institutions. In England and Wales 1 in every 5 deaths took place in public institutions during 1909.

Deaths in public institutions in Greater Melbourne.

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, 1911.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths
Hospitals—		Other Public Institutions—	
Melbourne	756	Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	79
Alfred	233	Benevolent Asylum ...	175
St. Vincent's	193	Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor	57
Homoeopathic	79	Old Colonists' Home ...	5
Austin	198	Foundling Hospital and Infants Home	54
Children's	312	Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows	12
Women's	102	Metropolitan Lunatic Asylum	148
Infectious Diseases' ...	80	Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum...	72
Queen Victoria	7	Other Institutions ...	41
Eye and Ear	9		
Williamstown	6		
Total Hospitals ...	1,975	Total Hospitals and other Institutions	2,618

Deaths and births in Australasian capitals.

The next table shows the numbers of deaths and births, and the death rates in the Australasian Capital Cities; also the numerical and centesimal excess of births over deaths in each during 1911:—

DEATHS AND BIRTHS IN CAPITAL CITIES, 1911.

Capital City with Suburbs.	Number of Deaths.	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.	Number of Births.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
				Numerical.	Centesimal.
Melbourne ...	7,615	12·81	14,563	6,948	91
Sydney ...	6,973	10·87	17,829	10,856	156
Brisbane ...	1,729	12·14	4,048	2,319	134
Adelaide ...	2,426	12·75	5,225	2,799	115
Perth ...	1,354	12·31	3,316	1,962	145
Hobart ...	570	15·05	1,157	587	103
Wellington ...	707	9·95	1,829	1,122	159

The deaths in the Capital Cities of the six States numbered 20,667, or 44·8 per cent. of the total deaths in Australia, during the year 1911. The centesimal excess of births over deaths for each city shows that for every 100 deaths there were 259 births in Wellington, 256 in Sydney, 245 in Perth, 234 in Brisbane, 215 in Adelaide, 203 in Hobart, and 191 in Melbourne, giving an average of 224 for the metropolitan cities of Australasia.

Death rates in various cities.

In 1911, the death rate of Melbourne—12·81—was higher than that of any other Australasian Capital, except Hobart, but it was lower than the rates for 1910 in 28 of the 33 undermentioned cities:—

DEATHS PER 1,000 OF POPULATION IN VARIOUS CITIES, 1910.

City.	Death Rate.	City.	Death Rate.
Moscow ...	26·9	Vienna ...	15·8
Bucarest ...	25·6	Glasgow ...	15·1
Rio de Janeiro ...	24·3	Chicago ...	15·1
St. Petersburg ...	24·1	Turin ...	14·9
Trieste ...	22·9	Berlin ...	14·7
Dublin ...	19·9	Stockholm ...	14·6
Budapest ...	19·3	Copenhagen ...	14·2
Breslau ...	19·1	Hamburg ...	14·2
Venice ...	19·0	Edinburgh ...	14·0
Belfast ...	18·6	Dresden ...	13·8
Prague ...	18·4	Brussels ...	13·6
Boston ...	17·2	London ...	12·7
Milan ...	17·1	The Hague ...	12·5
Philadelphia ...	16·8	Amsterdam ...	12·2
Paris ...	16·7	Rotterdam ...	12·2
New York ...	16·0	Christiania ...	11·9
Munich ...	15·9		

In 1911, the death rate of the metropolitan cities of Australia was 12.0 per 1,000 of their combined populations, which was below the proportionate mortality of all of the above cities, except Christiania.

The mortality of children under one year in proportion to births has been considerably less in recent than in earlier periods, but the necessity for reducing the risks to infant health and life, particularly amongst illegitimate children, is still apparent. Of every 100 infants born in the five years 1907-11, 7.51 died within a year, as against 11.11 in 1891-1900. The reduction in the rate represents a saving during the last five years of 5,700 infant lives. The deaths of infants in 1911 numbered 2,270, and as there were 33,044 births, it follows that of every 100 infants born, approximately, 6.87 died within twelve months.

Infantile mortality in 1911 and previous years.

The prejudicial effect of city surroundings on infant life is evidenced by the fact that the mortality rate in the metropolitan area exceeded that in the remainder of the State by 28 per cent. in 1911, and by 36 per cent. in the period 1906-10. That the difference in favour of infants in less densely populated centres is not confined to Victoria is indicated by the experience in England, where the rate is about 30 per cent. higher in Urban Areas than in Rural Districts. The following table shows the infantile mortality rates in Melbourne and suburbs, and in the remainder of the State, and the difference in favour of the latter during the years 1873-1911:—

Infantile mortality in Melbourne and country.

INFANTILE DEATH RATES IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, AND IN THE REMAINDER OF THE STATE, 1873-1911.

Period.	Melbourne and Suburbs—Deaths per 100 Births.	Remainder of State—Deaths per 100 Births.	Excess per cent. of Melbourne over Country Rate.
1873-80	16.85	10.16	66
1881-90	17.14	9.50	80
1891-1900	13.36	9.60	39
1901-1905	11.26	8.45	33
1906-1910	9.47	6.95	36
1911	7.82	6.12	28

In 1911 the proportion of deaths of infants under one year per 100 births was 7.82 in Melbourne, as compared with 7.10 in Sydney, 8.08 in Brisbane, 7.77 in Adelaide, 7.90 in Perth, 8.04 in Hobart,

Infantile death rates in various cities.

and 7.33 in Wellington. The rates in Australasian capitals in 1911 and in 25 other cities in 1910 are shown in the following table:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES IN VARIOUS CITIES.

City.	Deaths under 1 Year per 100 Births.	City.	Deaths under 1 Year per 100 Births.
Moscow	29.7	Copenhagen	11.8
St. Petersburg	26.2	Milan	11.3
Trieste	19.0	Edinburgh	11.1
Breslau	18.8	London	10.3
Vienna	17.6	Rotterdam	9.4
Munich	16.6	The Hague	9.3
Rio de Janeiro	16.6	Stockholm	9.2
Prague	16.4	Christiania	8.3
Berlin	15.7	Brisbane	8.1
Hamburg	14.9	Hobart	8.0
Budapest	14.8	Perth	7.9
Belfast	14.3	Melbourne	7.8
Dublin	14.2	Amsterdam	7.8
Dresden	12.9	Adelaide	7.8
Glasgow	12.1	Wellington	7.3
Paris	11.8	Sydney	7.1

Infantile
death rates
in metro-
politan
districts.

If the deaths of infants in districts of Greater Melbourne be compared with the births in the same districts (excluding births and deaths under one year occurring in hospitals), some remarkable differences will be found to exist in the infantile death rates in the various metropolitan municipalities:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES IN METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS.

Districts.	Deaths under 1 year per 100 Births.		
	1905-9.	1910.	1911.
Fitzroy City	11.74	10.19	7.30
Brunswick City	10.39	7.98	5.99
Port Melbourne Town	9.50	11.19	8.41
Williamstown Town	9.79	9.03	6.63
Melbourne City	9.90	8.25	7.08
Footscray City	8.58	9.71	7.28
Collingwood City	9.45	7.01	5.86
South Melbourne City	9.21	7.92	6.19
Richmond City	8.20	7.62	7.90
Prahran City	7.67	6.04	6.11
St. Kilda City	7.44	5.28	6.31
Essendon City	6.64	7.17	4.92
Caulfield Town	6.02	5.40	5.88
Malvern City	6.43	4.97	3.36
Hawthorn City	6.04	6.42	4.44
Northcote Town	6.34	4.88	3.73
Camberwell Town	5.31	3.59	5.15
Kew Town	4.42	3.61	5.53

Very much lower infantile death rates obtained in nearly all of the metropolitan municipalities in 1911 than in the period 1905-10. The reductions were specially marked in the cases of Fitzroy, Brunswick, Port Melbourne, Williamstown, Melbourne, Collingwood, South Melbourne, Essendon, Malvern, Hawthorn, and Northcote. It is noticeable that the seven centres having the lowest infantile death rates are mainly residential areas, and are not so thickly populated as the other principal metropolitan districts which have higher mortality rates. On the average of the last seven years, Kew had two-fifths, and Camberwell, Northcote, Hawthorn, Malvern, and Caulfield had slightly more than one-half the rate experienced in Fitzroy, which had the highest infantile death rate and the largest number of persons to the acre of any district in the metropolis.

Of the total mortality of infants under 1 year, two-fifths occurred in the first month and nearly three-fifths in the first three months of life. The annual deaths at ages under 1 month, from 1 to 3 months, from 3 to 6 months, and from 6 to 12 months, during the ten years ended with 1900, and the period 1907 to 1911, are shown in the following table, together with the percentage of deaths at each of those age-periods and the proportion of deaths to each 100 births. It will be noticed that in the last five years the mortality of infants per 100 births at each age period, was below the average of the ten years ended with 1900:—

Deaths of infants at different ages.

DEATHS OF INFANTS AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1891-1900 AND 1907-11.

Ages.	Average Annual Deaths of Infants under 1 year of Age.					
	Ten Years—1891-1900.			Five Years—1907-11.		
	Number.	Percentage at each Age.	Number per 100 Births.	Number.	Percentage at each Age.	Number per 100 Births.
<i>Boys.</i>						
Under 1 month	650	31·7	3·79	601	44·4	3·69
1 to 3 months	355	17·3	2·07	222	16·4	1·36
3 to 6 "	445	21·7	2·59	234	17·3	1·44
6 to 12 "	600	29·3	3·50	297	21·9	1·82
Total ..	2,050	100·0	11·95	1,354	100·0	8·31
<i>Girls.</i>						
Under 1 month	488	28·7	2·98	420	41·0	2·73
1 to 3 months	301	17·7	1·84	167	16·3	1·08
3 to 6 "	385	22·6	2·35	196	19·1	1·27
6 to 12 "	528	31·0	3·23	242	23·6	1·58
Total ..	1,702	100·0	10·40	1,025	100·0	6·66

The death rate of infants under 1 month remained fairly constant in both periods, but for the age groups 1 to 3 months, 3 to 6 months, and 6 to 12 months reductions amounting to 38, 45, and 49 per cent. respectively occurred in the mortality rates in 1907-11, as compared

with 1891-1900. This result may be attributed chiefly to the improved milk supply and the consequent lighter mortality from digestive and diarrhœal diseases.

Probable
mortality
of infants.

The experience of the years 1907-11 shows that of every 20,000 newly-born boys and girls in equal numbers, 831 boys and 666 girls died within twelve months, and 9,169 of the former and 9,334 of the latter, or 18,503 of mixed sexes were living at the end of the year. The corresponding numbers surviving the first year in earlier periods were 17,765 in the ten years 1891-1900 and 17,468 in 1881-1890. It is thus seen that of every 20,000 births comprising equal numbers of each sex there were 738 more survivors in 1907-11 than in 1891-1900, and 1,035 more than in 1881-1890.

Infantile
death rates
from
certain
causes.

Although the infantile death rate in Victoria has fluctuated considerably in recent years, it shows on the whole a tendency to decrease. This tendency was much more marked in the period 1907-11 than in the preceding five years. The rate for last year—6.87 deaths per 100 births—was 14 per cent. lower than that for the previous five years, and 38 per cent. below the rate for the decennium 1891-1900. Any investigation of this subject would be incomplete unless the diseases which have proved fatal to infant life in different years were ascertained, and their incidence in each period compared. Information of this nature reveals the causes of high mortalities, and, when a fairly early period is selected for comparison with recent years, it shows in what direction the improvement is tending. A detailed comparison of the mortalities from each disease would be less useful than one giving the main preventable and non-preventable causes of death, grouped under certain headings, such as is shown in the following table for the periods 1891-3, and 1901-9, and for the years 1910 and 1911.—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1891-3, 1901-9,
1910 AND 1911.

Causes of Death.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births in—			
	1891-3.	1901-9.	1910.	1911.
Diarrhœal Diseases, all forms	29.66	24.65	24.40	17.89
Wasting Diseases (Marasmus, Atrophy, &c.)	22.24	12.82	11.99	12.02
Prematurity	13.13	15.15	13.58	14.04
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	11.37	8.49	4.90	7.96
Convulsions	6.83	3.18	2.39	2.21
Congenital Defects and Malformations	3.45	4.85	4.99	4.20
Violence	3.16	2.58	1.53	1.06
Whooping Cough	2.60	2.64	1.46	.97
Other causes	24.49	14.75	11.68	8.35
Total all causes	116.93	89.11	76.92	68.70

The most striking feature of the infantile mortality figures is the marked tendency towards lower death rates from digestive and wasting diseases, and from complaints of the respiratory system. Of every 1,000 infants born 33 died from diarrhoeal and wasting diseases in 1910-11, as against 37 in 1901-9, and 52 in 1891-3—a decrease of over 36 per cent. in 19 years. In 1910-11 acute bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, and pneumonia were responsible for 6.4 deaths per 1,000 births, as compared with 11.4 in 1891-3—a decline of 44 per cent. between the two periods. A further examination of the foregoing table shows that the death rates from certain causes, which may be regarded as of a non-preventable nature, such as prematurity, congenital defects and malformations were responsible over the whole period for one-fifth of the total infantile mortality. Of the deaths from preventable causes about 1 in every 3 is due to diarrhoeal diseases, which are specially prevalent and fatal in hot weather, when milk food, the chief diet of children, undergoes rapid changes and consequently becomes dangerous to infant life. The influence of the seasons on the mortality amongst children under 1 year is vividly shown by the deaths in certain months. The Victorian experience shows a high death rate in December, January, February, and March co-existent with a heavy mortality rate from diarrhoeal diseases, and a low rate in the remaining eight months, concurrent with a very low rate from these complaints. On the average of the last ten years, of every 1,000 children born 24 died from diarrhoeal diseases within a year, a proportion which shows the necessity for preventive measures in this direction. The rate attributable to diarrhoeal complaints in Victoria is slightly higher than that in England and Wales, but the proportionate mortality from bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, and pneumonia is three times as high in the latter country as in the former.

The influence of temperature on infantile mortality from the chief digestive and respiratory diseases is specially noticeable, whilst on deaths from other causes, particularly those of a developmental character, very little influence is apparent. The deaths in Melbourne and suburbs from the two former classes of complaint in each of the quarters of the past seven-year period are shown in the following statement:—

Cause of Death.	Deaths during 1905-11 in the Quarter ended—			
	March.	June.	September.	December.
Diarrhoeal Diseases	1,251	470	167	605
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	109	184	368	70

Infantile deaths in seasons from certain causes.

The experience of the period 1905-11 shows that the first three months of the year furnish a greater infantile mortality from diarrhœal complaints than the remaining nine months, and that the deaths of infants in the September quarter from bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia and pneumonia are more numerous than in the other three quarters combined.

Legitimate
and illegi-
timate
infantile
death
rates.

On the average of the past eight years, 1 in every 5 illegitimate infants died within a year, as against 1 in every 14 legitimate children. It is thus seen that the chance of an illegitimate child dying before the age of 1 year is nearly three times that of the legitimate infant. In the year 1911 the mortality rate for legitimate infants—6.29 per 100 births—was lower than in the preceding year. The children born out of wedlock during the same year numbered 1,964, and the deaths of illegitimate infants were 316, which corresponded to a rate of 16.09 per 100 births. In England and Wales, in 1909, the corresponding mortality rates for legitimate and illegitimate infants were 10.43 and 21.12 respectively. With the view of ascertaining the chief reasons for the marked disproportion in the mortality rates of the two classes, the following table has been constructed, showing the deaths in Victoria from certain causes per 1,000 legitimate and illegitimate births on the average of the years 1904-8 and for the year 1911.

DEATH RATES OF LEGITIMATE AND ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS FROM
CERTAIN CAUSES 1904-8 AND 1911.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.			
	Legitimate.		Illegitimate.	
	1904-8.	1911.	1904-8.	1911.
Diarrhœal Diseases	19.8	15.8	72.6	50.0
Prematurity, Congenital Defects, Marasmus, &c.	30.3	28.7	52.1	55.4
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	6.9	7.3	18.6	18.8
Other causes	18.3	11.1	58.7	36.7
Total all causes	75.3	62.9	202.0	160.9

The rates for 1911 show that of every 1,000 children born out of wedlock 50.0 died from diarrhoeal diseases within a year as compared with 15.8 deaths per 1,000 legitimate infants from the same cause. For 1904-8 the corresponding rates were 72.6 and 19.8 respectively. Owing to a larger proportion of the former children being deprived of breast food a higher mortality from these diseases might be expected among them than among legitimate infants, but the striking differences in the death rates from this cause and from the chief respiratory diseases would indicate considerable neglect in the rearing of illegitimate infants.

The next table shows the proportion of deaths of infants under one year to the total births in each Australian State and New Zealand for each of the last five years, and the periods 1902-6 and 1891-1900 :—

Infantile mortality in Australasia.

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN AUSTRALASIA.

Period.	Deaths under 1 year per 100 Births.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1891-1900 ..	11.11	11.22	10.34	10.54	14.48	9.58	8.38
1902-6..	9.38	9.27	8.93	8.21	12.21	9.02	7.29
1907 ..	7.26	8.86	7.76	6.59	9.77	8.28	8.88
1908 ..	8.61	7.58	7.07	6.97	8.46	7.52	6.79
1909 ..	7.13	7.43	7.19	6.13	7.80	6.49	6.16
1910 ..	7.69	7.46	6.31	7.06	7.80	10.22	6.77
1911 ..	6.87	6.95	6.55	6.05	7.62	7.25	5.63
Average 1907-11	7.51	7.66	6.98	6.56	8.29	7.97	6.85

On the average of the last five years the lowest infantile death rate prevailed in South Australia, followed by that in New Zealand, Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania, in that order, and the highest in Western Australia. Although the rates show considerable variations in the States during any one year, and in different years in the same State, it is noticeable that the pronounced improvement which commenced in all the divisions of the Commonwealth in 1904 has continued with slight variations up to the latest year. Compared with the infantile death rate in 1902-6, the rate for 1911 showed a percentage decline of nearly 27 in Victoria

Decrease in infantile mortality in Australasia.

and Queensland, 25 in New South Wales, 26 in South Australia, nearly 38 in Western Australia, and 18½ in Tasmania. This reduction in infantile mortality rates in all the States in 1911 was equivalent to a saving of 3,040 infant lives, of which 829 were in Victoria.

Infantile
mortality
in various
countries.

The following table shows the infantile death rates of various foreign countries on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available, and of the Australian States and New Zealand on the average of the years 1907-11:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Deaths under 1 year per 100 Births.	Country.	Deaths under 1 year per 100 Births.
Russia (European) ...	25·6	England and Wales ...	12·1
Austria... ..	21·2	The Netherlands ...	11·9
Hungary	21·1	Scotland	11·7
German Empire... ..	18·8	Denmark	11·4
Prussia	17·6	Ireland	9·4
Spain	17·0	Western Australia ...	8·3
Italy	15·9	Sweden	8·3
Bulgaria	15·6	Tasmania	8·0
Japan	15·3	New South Wales ...	7·7
Servia	15·0	Victoria	7·5
Belgium	14·6	Norway	7·4
France	13·9	Queensland	7·0
Switzerland	12·5	New Zealand	6·8
Ontario, Province of ...	12·2	South Australia ...	6·6

Of all the countries for which information is available Russia has the highest and South Australia, New Zealand and Queensland have the lowest infantile mortality. In the former 1 in every 4, and in the three latter slightly less than 1 in every 14 infants dies within its first year.

Deaths of
children
under 5.

In 1911 the deaths of male children under 5 years of age numbered 1,681, and the deaths of female children under that age, 1,274—the former being in the proportion of 20.12 per cent., and the latter of 18.57 per cent., to the total number of deaths of the respective sexes at all ages. These proportions are below the averages of the previous ten years. Comparing the averages of the four decades ended with 1910, and the deaths in 1911, it will be seen that a marked falling off took place, from period to period, in the mortality of children relatively to that of persons of all ages.

The following table shows the annual number of such deaths in the State at each year of age, and their proportion to the deaths at all ages in the periods mentioned:—

MORTALITY OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS.

Period.	Years of Age at Death.					Total under 5 Years.	
	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	Number.	Proportion Per 100 Deaths at all Ages.
<i>Males.</i>							
1871-1880.. ..	1,783	508	206	148	119	2,764	39·41
1881-1890.. ..	2,158	464	161	114	92	2,989	34·28
1891-1900.. ..	2,050	432	143	93	76	2,794	30·05
1901-1910.. ..	1,504	249	83	59	41	1,936	22·93
1911	1,309	201	71	58	42	1,681	20·12
<i>Females.</i>							
1871-1880.. ..	1,482	482	198	139	106	2,407	46·06
1881-1890.. ..	1,805	423	151	105	84	2,568	39·61
1891-1900.. ..	1,702	385	129	82	68	2,366	33·61
1901-1910.. ..	1,192	217	81	51	40	1,581	23·58
1911	961	149	73	50	41	1,274	18·57

The increasing proportion of infants who survive their fifth year shows that the conditions affecting child life have materially improved in the past thirty years, and that the improvement has been very pronounced since 1900. The increasing ratio of survivors is marked at each year of age, in the ten-year period 1902-11. In this period also a low death rate between 1 and 5 years was coincident with a low mortality in the first year of life, while in the decades 1881-1890 and 1891-1900 the high rates which prevailed under 1 year were associated with high mortality rates for each of the four following years. It would thus appear that the effects of illness in the first year of life, as indicated by a high death rate, are conducive to a high mortality in each of the four succeeding years. The results disclosed agree with the conclusions of the Medical Officer of the Local Government Board (England), who stated in his 1909-10 report that "the countries having high infant mortalities continue in general to suffer somewhat excessively throughout the first twenty years of human life, and that

Proportion of infants surviving their fifth year.

countries having low infantile mortalities continue to have relatively low death rates in the first twenty years of life, though the superiority is not so great at the later as at the earlier ages." The following table gives the numbers of survivors at each year of age from 1 to 5 inclusive per 10,000 male and 10,000 female infants born in Victoria taking the averages of the decennia 1881-1890, 1891-1900, and 1902-11:—

SURVIVORS AT EACH YEAR OF AGE, 1 TO 5 INCLUSIVE, PER 10,000 MALES AND 10,000 FEMALES BORN 1881-1890, 1891-1900, AND 1902-11.

Age.	Survivors at each year of age 1 to 5 inclusive per 10,000 Births of—					
	Males.			Females.		
	1881-1890.	1891-1900.	1902-1911.	1881-1890.	1891-1900.	1902-1911.
1 year	8,652	8,805	9,088	8,816	8,960	9,234
2 years	8,351	8,540	8,921	8,529	8,713	9,087
3 "	8,252	8,459	8,863	8,430	8,629	9,029
4 "	8,180	8,396	8,821	8,361	8,577	8,992
5 "	8,121	8,349	8,782	8,303	8,534	8,961

According to the experience of the period 1902-11 of every 10,000 boys and 10,000 girls born in Victoria, 9,088 of the former and 9,234 of the latter may be expected to survive the first year of life, 8,921 boys and 9,087 girls will be alive at the end of the second year, 8,863 and 9,029 at the end of the third year, 8,821 and 8,992 at the end of the fourth year, and 8,782 and 8,961 at the end of the fifth year. Combining the two sexes in equal numbers, the average number of survivors is 8,871 per 10,000 births—a much greater number than either of the proportions deduced from the mortalities in the decennia 1891-1900 and 1881-1890, when the corresponding averages were 8,441 and 8,213 respectively. Of every 10,000 infants born in Victoria there are, on the average, 5,122 boys and 4,878 girls—being in the ratio of 105 of the former to every 100 of the latter. According to the mortality experienced in the period 1902-11 these will be reduced at the end of five years to 4,498 boys and 4,371 girls, and the ratio of the sexes will be altered to 103 males for every 100 females. Thus, two-fifths of the excess of males over females at birth is neutralized in the first five years by the heavier mortality among boys, especially in their first year of life.

The ages of males and females who died in 1911 and in the two preceding years are shown in the following table:—

AGES AT DEATH IN VICTORIA, 1909-11.

Ages.	1909.			1910.			1911.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 ..	1,302	949	2,251	1,374	1,044	2,418	1,309	961	2,270
1 to 2	232	169	401	224	188	412	201	149	350
2 " 3	72	76	148	69	58	127	71	73	144
3 " 4	46	49	95	51	46	97	58	50	108
4 " 5	42	41	83	37	37	74	42	41	83
5 " 10	111	108	219	128	116	244	147	143	290
10 " 15	108	75	183	102	96	198	103	109	212
15 " 20	178	173	351	164	169	333	162	150	312
20 " 25	167	210	377	191	219	410	214	244	458
25 " 30	201	244	445	204	247	451	198	228	426
30 " 35	199	216	415	202	244	446	223	254	477
35 " 40	257	283	540	253	268	521	257	273	530
40 " 45	326	293	619	345	249	594	326	291	617
45 " 50	460	319	779	466	298	764	389	326	715
50 " 55	438	241	679	425	298	723	509	329	838
55 " 60	385	237	622	386	273	659	403	287	690
60 " 65	410	313	723	413	298	711	483	310	793
65 " 70	588	473	1,061	538	427	965	571	420	991
70 " 75	722	573	1,295	682	564	1,246	708	617	1,325
75 " 80	882	633	1,515	867	637	1,504	823	737	1,560
80 " 85	608	385	993	631	469	1,100	734	494	1,228
85 " 90	255	219	474	282	238	520	315	255	570
90 " 95	66	70	136	77	94	171	92	90	182
95 ..	4	4	8	5	5	10	4	7	11
96 ..	1	2	3	3	4	7	4	6	10
97 ..	5	2	7	2	4	6	3	3	6
98 ..	1	4	5	2	5	7	..	5	5
99 ..	1	1	2	2	3	5	2	3	5
100 ..	1	3	4	1	3	4	2	2	4
101 ..	1	1	2	3	..	3	2	1	3
102 ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	2
103 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
105 ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1
107 ..	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..
108 ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..
110 ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
113 ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
Total ..	8,070	6,366	14,436	8,132	6,604	14,736	8,356	6,861	15,217

Of the 44,389 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years 5,501 were aged 80 years and upwards, and 31—fifteen males and sixteen females—had attained or passed the age of 100 years. The highest age recorded in 1909-11 was that of a woman whose years were given as 113. To every 100 female deaths there were 122 male deaths in 1911, as against 123 in 1910 and 127 in 1909.

Altered
classifica-
tion of
causes of
deaths.

In accordance with the decision of the Conference of Statisticians held in Melbourne in 1906, the causes of death were arranged for the first time in 1907 according to The International Classification of Causes of Death. This differs so materially in some respects from the mortality lists previously used in Victoria that comparisons of deaths and death rates from certain causes in the years 1907 to 1911 with those of earlier years are impossible. This applies even to some causes which appear to be similarly grouped, but are actually of a non-comparable character owing to their limitations in 1907-11 differing from those of earlier periods. In any comparison of mortalities from detailed causes it is therefore necessary to bear in mind the minor diseases excluded from or included in the assigned causes in the years compared. This precaution is especially necessary in comparing certain mortalities of the digestive, nervous, and respiratory systems.

Death rate
from
certain
diseases.

With regard to the selection of the primary cause of death when two or more associated diseases are stated, there is no material difference between the International method and that previously followed in Victoria, except in the case of a few minor nervous and respiratory complaints of persons dying in Hospitals for the Insane. Many important causes of death are practically unaffected by the new classification referred to in the preceding paragraph, and consequently retain their comparative character. Amongst these are cancer, tubercular diseases, typhoid fever, whooping cough, measles, influenza, scarlet fever, meningitis and encephalitis, diabetes, appendicitis, urinary, liver and puerperal diseases, suicide, old age, &c. In many other instances, as where death was due to diarrhoea and enteritis, diphtheria and croup, hydatids, accidental violence, homicide, &c., rearrangements of the mortalities have been made which allow comparisons to be instituted with previous years. The health of the community, as reflected in the death rates from the chief diseases arranged on a comparative basis, is shown in the following table for the period 1890-2 and for the last five years:—

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.					
	1890-2.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Typhoid Fever	369	71	137	103	107	72
Scarlet Fever	34	2	17	33	22	3
Measles	2	33	16	3	25	56
Whooping Cough	129	103	54	132	50	32
Diphtheria and Croup	552	79	88	69	86	179
Influenza	381	221	131	86	92	114
Hydatids	51	34	21	25	17	24
Cancer	584	796	794	802	832	833
Phthisis	1,365	958	955	848	830	839
Other Tubercular Diseases	379	209	200	192	176	186
Syphilis	39	63	56	44	51	46
Diabetes	38	110	98	102	106	117

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES—*continued.*

Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.					
	1890-2.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucæmia ..	28	45	85	90	80	66
Meningitis and Encephalitis ..	113	161	164	152	116	113
Locomotor Ataxia and other diseases of Spinal Cord	43	65	80	75	64	62
Congestion and Hæmorrhage of the Brain	344	463	467	415	439	462
Epilepsy	74	32	43	39	25	33
Convulsions	353	87	88	63	81	66
Heart Disease (including Endocar- ditis, Pericarditis, and Angina Pec- toris)	962	1,264	1,404	1,517	1,423	1,434
Acute and Chronic Bronchitis ..	691	343	374	321	288	356
Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia	853	780	918	768	658	818
Pleurisy	96	46	46	41	38	52
Congestion of Lungs and Pulmonary Apoplexy	140	54	69	66	49	67
Asthma and Pulmonary Emphysema	70	43	56	60	60	70
Enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, and Diar- rheal Diseases	1,342	718	1,061	756	918	679
Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction ..	124	125	100	122	120	110
Diseases of the Stomach (Cancer excepted)	175	101	113	86	89	104
Cirrhosis and other diseases of the Liver (Cancer excepted) ..	329	165	163	149	156	152
Biliary Calculi	11	28	22	31	32	26
Appendicitis and Abscess of the Iliac Fossa .. ..	..	66	80	74	83	83
Simple Peritonitis (non-puerperal)..	106	52	48	41	34	23
Acute and Chronic Nephritis, Ura- mia, Bright's Disease	294	596	614	518	499	589
Diseases of the Bladder and Prostate	86	107	88	91	89	96
Calculi of the Urinary System ..	8	6	8	6	5	10
Old Age	631	982	1,111	988	982	1,038
Suicide	109	95	92	92	101	114
Accidental Violence	811	568	647	498	528	469
Homicide	34	17	15	12	31	18

The most striking features of the mortality of 1911, as compared with the previous year were the large decrease in the deaths of infants from diarrhœa and enteritis, and the great increase in deaths at all ages from respiratory diseases. Measles, diphtheria, influenza, tubercular diseases, diabetes, epilepsy, heart disease, urinary complaints, and suicide also furnished higher rates, while typhoid fever, scarlet fever, whooping cough, accidental violence, and homicide were responsible for lower rates than in the previous year. These and other comparable causes of death are fully dealt with in subsequent paragraphs.

The efficacy of vaccination in minimizing the risk of infection from small-pox is recognised by Victorian legislation, which requires parents to have their children vaccinated. The proportion of successful vaccinations to every 100 births for the average of the period

Vaccina-
tions.

1876-1899, and for each year since, is shown in the following table:—

SUCCESSFUL VACCINATIONS PER 100 BIRTHS.

Period.	Vaccinations per 100 births.	Period.	Vaccinations per 100 births.
1876-1899 ...	72	1906 ...	67
1900 ...	67	1907 ...	67
1901 ...	62	1908 ...	67
1902 ...	53	1909 ...	68
1903 ...	71	1910 ...	69
1904 ...	69	1911 ...	62
1905 ...	67		

During the past five years about two-thirds of the children born were vaccinated. This was slightly higher than the proportion in 1902-6, but lower than the ratio—72 per cent.—in the period 1876-1899. Allowing for deaths of unvaccinated infants in each year since 1876, it is probable that about one in every five of the Victorian born population under 35 years of age has not been vaccinated.

Small-pox.

Persons suffering from small-pox have arrived at Victorian ports on many occasions, but as they were at once quarantined, the disease never spread among the people of the State. There were no deaths from this disease in 1911, but in the previous year three oversea arrivals—1 male and 2 females—died from small-pox in the Victorian quarantine station. Since 1853 only 28 deaths have occurred from this cause, and of that number only 5 have taken place in the twenty-seven years ended 1911. Statistics of European countries reveal a very marked decline in the mortality from small-pox in recent years. The deaths per million of the population in various countries are shown in the following table for the average of the latest three years for which these particulars are available:—

DEATHS FROM SMALL-POX PER MILLION OF POPULATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per Million of the Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per Million of the Population.
Ceylon ...	1907-9	34.2	Victoria ...	1909-11	.8
Japan ...	1906-8	31.2	Scotland ...	1908-10	.4
Italy ...	1907-9	17.3	England and Wales	1907-9	.4
Belgium ...	1906-8	6.2	The Netherlands...	1907-9	.4
Hungary ...	1907-9	5.9	New South Wales	1909-11	.4
Norway ...	1906-8	2.7	Denmark ...	1906-8	.1
Switzerland	1906-8	2.3	Sweden ...	1906-8	.1
United States of America	1907-9	1.8	Roumania ...	1907-9	.1
Ontario, Province of	1906-8	1.5	Ireland ...	1908-10	} No Deaths.
Western Australia	1909-11	1.2	New Zealand ...	1908-10	
Austria ...	1906-8	1.1	South Australia ...	1909-11	
German Empire ...	1906-8	.9	Queensland ...	1909-11	
Prussia ...	1907-9	.9	Tasmania ...	1909-11	

Typhoid fever was responsible in 1911 for 95 deaths, which represented a mortality rate of 72 per million of population, as against 107 in the previous year, 103 in 1909, 137 in 1908, 71 in 1907, and 369 in 1890-2. The rate for last year was 35 per cent. below the average of the preceding five years, and 80 per cent. lower than that for the period 1890-2. For Greater Melbourne also a rapidly diminishing death rate from this cause is shown in recent years, the rate for 1907-11 being only 8.6 per hundred thousand of the population as compared with 31.8 in the decennium 1891-1900. In regard to the prevalence of typhoid fever in different divisions of the State it is notable that the reported cases in the metropolitan area furnish a lower "attack rate" than those in the remainder of the State on the average of the last five years. Comparing the deaths in Greater Melbourne from typhoid fever with the cases reported in the five years 1907-11, the fatality rate was less than 1 in every 10 cases, which was similar to that for Sydney in 1900-9, but was only two-thirds of the fatality experienced in London in the period 1904-8. The mortality is higher at early adult and middle ages than at other periods of life, and higher among males than females. This is shown in the next table which gives the death rates in age groups for each sex at the last three census periods:—

DEATH RATES FROM TYPHOID FEVER 1890-2, 1900-2, 1909-11.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of Each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
0-15	2.26	0.97	0.33	2.85	1.46	0.47
15-20	5.21	2.65	2.05	5.85	2.23	1.03
20-25	9.21	4.39	2.03	4.77	1.84	1.42
25-35	6.48	3.28	1.91	3.87	2.04	1.14
35-45	3.60	2.25	1.38	2.03	1.21	0.72
45-55	2.24	1.95	0.95	1.29	0.93	0.49
55-65	1.74	0.66	0.30	1.04	0.34	0.50
65 and over	0.99	..	0.20	2.13	0.23	0.19
All ages	4.08	1.95	1.10	3.25	1.49	0.75

The experience of the last three census periods shows that the rate for males exceeds that for females by 30 per cent., and that the heaviest mortality occurs between the ages 15 and 35. It is notable that at each census period the proportionate deaths of persons under 15 were fewer among boys than girls.

Typhoid
death rates
in various
countries.

The deaths from typhoid fever per 100,000 of the population in various countries for the latest three-year period for which this information is available are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM TYPHOID FEVER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Spain	1907-9	31·2	Japan	1906-8	12·3
Ontario, Province of	1906-8	31·1	Belgium	1906-8	11·7
Hungary	1907-9	27·0	Victoria	1909-11	9·4
Italy	1907-9	27·0	South Australia...	1909-11	7·1
United States of America	1907-9	25·6	New Zealand	1908-10	7·1
Western Australia	1909-11	26·2	Ireland	1908-10	7·0
Roumania	1907-9	22·4	Scotland	1907-9	7·0
Tasmania	1909-11	17·5	England and Wales	1907-9	6·7
New South Wales	1909-11	15·6	The Netherlands	1907-9	6·1
Queensland	1909-11	15·5	Prussia	1907-9	5·3
Austria	1906-8	14·9	German Empire...	1906-8	5·1
Servia	1906-8	14·3	Switzerland	1906-8	4·5
			Norway	1906-8	4·1

On the average of the past three years the mortality rate from typhoid fever was lower in Victoria than in any other Australian State except South Australia.

Scarlet
fever.

During 1911 the deaths from scarlet fever numbered only 4, which corresponded to the low rate of 3 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 22 in the previous year, 33 in 1909, 17 in 1908, 2 in 1907, and 34 in 1890-2. The ratio of deaths to notified cases in Greater Melbourne during the period 1907-11 was 15 in every 1,000, as compared with a fatality rate of 26 per 1,000 in London for the period 1904-8. Death rates from scarlet fever are considerably lower in the Australian States than in European countries. The deaths from this disease, per 100,000 of the population,

in various countries on the average of the latest three years for which this information is available are given in the subjoined table:—

DEATH RATES FROM SCARLET FEVER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Servia ...	1906-8	151·8	Sweden ...	1906-8	5·3
Roumania ...	1907-9	73·9	Ontario, Province of	1906-8	4·9
Hungary ...	1907-9	57·7	The Netherlands	1907-9	4·3
Austria ...	1906-8	42·5	Switzerland ...	1906-8	4·2
Prussia ...	1907-9	21·9	New Zealand ...	1908-10	3·4
German Empire ...	1906-8	17·2	Norway ...	1906-8	3·2
Belgium ...	1906-8	13·2	Ireland ...	1908-10	2·9
United States of America ...	1907-9	11·6	Victoria ...	1909-11	1·9
Spain ...	1907-9	10·6	New South Wales	1909-11	1·3
Italy ...	1907-9	8·9	Tasmania ...	1909-11	·9
England and Wales	1907-9	8·7	Queensland ...	1909-11	·7
Scotland ...	1907-9	8·3	Western Australia	1909-11	·2
United Kingdom	1906-8	8·1	South Australia	1909-11	·2
			Japan ...	1906-8	·2

The mortality from measles has varied very considerably from period to period, although there have been only two severe epidemic outbreaks during the past twenty years, and these did not extend beyond the years—1893 and 1898—in which they occurred. In 1911 there were 74 deaths attributed to this cause, representing a rate of 56 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 25 in the previous year, 3 in 1909, 16 in 1908, and 33 in 1907. The deaths from measles per 100,000 of the population in different countries for the latest three years for which this information is available, are shown in the next table:—

DEATH RATES FROM MEASLES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Hungary ...	1907-9	41·7	United States ...	1907-9	10·2
Spain ...	1907-9	36·6	Sweden ...	1906-8	7·0
Scotland ...	1906-8	35·6	Norway ...	1906-8	6·7
Belgium ...	1906-8	33·6	Ontario, Province of	1906-8	5·0
England and Wales	1907-9	31·4	Japan ...	1906-8	4·9
Italy ...	1907-9	30·3	Western Australia	1909-11	3·8
Austria ...	1906-8	28·5	Queensland ...	1909-11	3·1
The Netherlands ...	1907-9	23·2	New South Wales	1909-11	3·0
Roumania ...	1907-9	18·7	Victoria ...	1909-11	2·8
Prussia ...	1907-9	18·0	Tasmania ...	1909-11	2·5
Ireland ...	1907-9	14·4	New Zealand ...	1908-10	1·6
Switzerland ...	1906-8	13·3	South Australia	1909-11	1·4

The average rate for the last three years in Victoria was greatly below that experienced in European and other countries, being about one-eleventh of the rate in England, and only slightly more than one-fourth of that in the United States.

Whooping
cough.

There were 42 deaths referred to whooping cough in 1911, which equalled a rate of 32 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 50 in the previous year, 132 in 1909, 54 in 1908, and 103 in 1907. The infantile death rate is more affected than the general rate by this ailment, as it is practically confined to children. In the year under review 32, or nearly 76 per cent., of the deaths were of infants under 1 year, and all the deaths were of children less than five years of age. The incidence of this disease is generally about 20 per cent. higher among girls than boys, but in the year under review the excess was only about 10 per cent. The deaths from whooping cough per 100,000 of the population for various countries, during the latest three-year period for which this information is available, are given in the following table:—

DEATHS FROM WHOOPING COUGH PER 100,000 OF POPULATION IN
DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Servia ...	... 1906-8	179·9	Sweden ...	1906-8	15·4
Scotland ...	... 1906-8	41·8	Switzerland ...	1906-8	14·9
Austria...	... 1906-8	39·3	Norway ...	1906-8	13·1
Hungary ...	... 1907-9	35·6	Tasmania ...	1909-11	11·8
Belgium ...	... 1906-8	34·2	United States ...	1907-9	10·9
England and Wales	1907-9	25·7	Ontario, Province of	1906-8	10·5
German Empire ...	1906-8	25·4	Queensland ...	1909-11	9·7
Prussia ...	... 1907-9	25·3	Western Australia	1909-11	7·9
Roumania ...	... 1907-9	22·4	New Zealand ...	1908-10	7·8
Ireland ...	... 1907-9	22·3	Japan ...	... 1906-8	7·2
Spain ...	... 1907-9	19·8	Victoria ...	... 1909-11	7·1
The Netherlands	1907-9	19·4	South Australia...	1909-11	7·1
Italy ...	... 1907-9	16·5	New South Wales	1909-11	7·1

On the average of the past three years the mortality rate from whooping cough in Victoria was less than one-third of that in England and Wales, and in the German Empire. It was also below that in any other Australian State except South Australia and New South Wales.

Diphtheria
and croup.

The number of deaths from diphtheria and croup during 1911 was 237, which equalled a rate of 179 per million of the population, as against 86 in the previous year, 69 in 1909, 88 in 1908, 79 in 1907, and 552 in 1890-2. Like measles, scarlet fever, and whooping cough, it is an ailment chiefly affecting children. Of the 237 deaths

attributed to this disease in the latest year, 202 were of children under 10 years of age, of whom 102 had not completed their fifth year. The incidence of the malady is light in the first year of life, as compared with the subsequent four years, and is about equal for both sexes. The fatality rate of diphtheria, *i.e.*, the proportion of deaths to the cases in Greater Melbourne notified to the Board of Health, shows that 47 in every 1,000 ended fatally in 1907-11, as against 67 in Sydney in 1900-9. Prior to the employment of the anti-toxin treatment of diphtheria the fatality rate in Melbourne was five and a half times that experienced in the past five years. The deaths from diphtheria and croup per 100,000 of the population for various countries during the latest three-year period for which this information is available are given in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM DIPHTHERIA AND CROUP IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Servia ...	1906-8	41·6	England and Wales	1907-9	15·6*
Hungary ...	1907-9	41·1	Switzerland ...	1906-8	15·2
Austria ...	1906-8	28·9	Scotland ...	1906-8	15·1*
Prussia ...	1907-9	24·9	New South Wales	1909-11	13·3
German Empire ...	1906-8	23·4	Queensland ...	1909-11	11·9
United States ...	1907-9	22·5	Victoria ...	1909-11	11·1
Norway ...	1906-8	22·3	South Australia	1909-11	10·6
Western Australia	1909-11	21·7	Japan ...	1906-8	9·2
Spain ...	1907-9	19·9	Tasmania ...	1909-11	8·9
Ontario, Province of	1906-8	18·8	Ireland ...	1907-9	8·0*
Italy ...	1907-9	16·9	The Netherlands	1907-9	6·1*
Sweden ...	1906-8	16·3	New Zealand ...	1907-9	5·4
Belgium ...	1906-8	16·1*	Roumania ..	1907-9	5·1

* Excluding croup.

The deaths attributed to hydatids in 1911 numbered 32, being equivalent to a rate of 24 per million of the population as compared with rates of 17 in the preceding year, 26 in 1909, 21 in 1908, 34 in 1907, and 51 in 1890-2. Of the 154 persons who died from this disease in the last five years 80 were males and 74 females; only 1 was under 5 years of age. In 1911, 80 per cent. of the fully defined cases were of the liver and 20 per cent. were of the lungs. Hospital returns for the last five years show that 483 cases of hydatids were treated therein and that 1 in every 11 ended fatally.

Anæmia, chlorosis, and leucæmia were responsible for 87 deaths in 1911, which corresponded to a rate of 66 per million of the population as against 80 in the previous year, 90 in 1909, 85 in 1908, and 45 in 1907.

Diabetes.

The death rate from diabetes has shown a varying increase in recent periods, and on the average of the past five years it was the heaviest ever experienced in the State. In the year under review—1911—there were attributed to this cause 65 male and 90 female deaths, representing a rate of 117 per million of the population, which was 17 above the average of the previous five years. The deaths from diabetes per 10,000 of each sex in nine age groups for the periods 1890-2, 1900-2, and 1909-11, are shown in the following table:—

DEATHS FROM DIABETES IN VICTORIA PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX LIVING.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex Living.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
0-10	·02	·09	·14	·02	·05	·20
10-20	·17	·24	·20	·14	·26	·23
20-30	·29	·17	·44	·14	·36	·30
30-40	·21	·32	·46	·30	·51	·57
40-50	·58	·49	1·16	·49	·42	·75
50-60	1·18	1·38	1·76	1·31	1·42	3·07
60-70	1·49	2·67	5·29	2·49	3·19	7·32
70-80	2·87	4·36	7·21	1·88	5·01	12·98
80 and over	1·65	4·11	6·26	4·44	3·54	6·88
All Ages	·40	·56	·94	·36	·60	1·23

At each age group over 40 the mortality rate from diabetes was considerably higher in 1909-11 than at the previous census period. During the past three years the female exceeded the male rate for each age period over 50 the excess for the twenty years of life 60 to 80 amounting to 57 per cent. Omitting the age group 0-10, at which the deaths are few and the rates susceptible to slight influences, the greatest increase occurred at ages 70-80, and the next heaviest increase at ages 60-70.

Influenza.

The deaths from influenza in 1911 numbered 150, corresponding to a rate of 114 per million of the population, which was 22 per cent. below the average of the previous five years. Although this disease has varied in form in different periods it has always proved much more fatal to elderly people than to those of middle or young ages. Three-fifths of the deaths in 1911 were of persons aged 60 years and upwards. The age incidence of the disease at various periods is shown in the next table, which gives the average yearly

proportion of deaths from influenza per 10,000 of each sex in age groups during the years adjoining five census dates:—

DEATHS FROM INFLUENZA IN VICTORIA PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX LIVING.

Age Group.	1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
<i>Males.</i>					
0-15	·69	·34	2·50	1·10	·59
15-20 ... ..	...	·07	·64	·34	·34
20-25 ... ..	...	...	1·20	·59	·21
25-35	·05	·07	1·50	·79	·27
35-45	·05	...	3·04	1·31	·48
45-55	·09	·24	5·12	3·20	·92
55-65	·67	·24	12·65	5·25	1·89
65 and upwards	1·09	2·36	27·13	17·02	9·10
All ages	·33	·25	3·94	2·30	1·02
<i>Females.</i>					
0-15	·52	·34	1·86	1·15	·41
15-20 ... ..	...	...	·92	·83	·24
20-25 ... ..	...	...	1·28	·69	·25
25-35	·07	·07	2·35	·89	·25
35-45 ... ..	...	·08	4·11	1·86	·39
45-55	·17	...	5·39	2·02	·50
55-65	·39	·62	11·46	5·53	1·51
65 and upwards	·84	3·18	35·22	16·02	10·01
All ages	·28	·24	3·72	2·13	·92

The death rate for the recent census period shows a substantial decrease as compared with that for each of the two preceding periods, the rate for 1909-11 being 56 per cent. below that for 1900-2, and nearly 75 per cent. lower than the rate for 1890-2. It is notable that the decline in the mortality rate from this disease has been associated with very heavy reductions in the death rates from pulmonary tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases.

In 1911 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,942, which represented a rate of 1,470 per million of the population, as compared with 1,180 in 1910, 1,316 in 1909, 1,531 in 1908, 1,343 in 1907, and 2,029 in 1890-2. Of the deaths from complaints of this nature in the year under review, 178 were referred to acute bronchitis, 293 to chronic bronchitis, 407 to broncho-pneumonia, 673 to pneumonia, and 69 to pleurisy. These five diseases accounted for over 83 per cent. of the total respiratory mortality. The seasonal incidence of the maladies is evidenced by the deaths in July, August, September, and October, which represented 46 per cent. of the total for the whole year. Respiratory diseases are much more fatal at the extremes of life than at middle ages, and among males than females. This is shown in the next table, which gives the death rates in age

Respiratory diseases.

groups for each sex at five census periods, when the age and sex constitution of the population were accurately known.

DEATHS FROM RESPIRATORY DISEASES PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX LIVING.

Age Group.		1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
<i>Males.</i>						
0-15	...	22·65	29·02	28·52	16·53	10·63
15-20	...	3·05	3·30	2·92	2·70	1·61
20-25	...	5·70	5·34	4·88	4·85	2·21
25-35	...	5·69	8·31	6·85	5·94	3·51
35-45	...	10·28	15·80	13·55	9·49	8·89
45-55	...	20·43	26·59	25·18	18·04	16·13
55-65	...	41·79	51·65	56·51	38·37	29·01
65 and upwards	...	108·11	136·54	141·07	112·38	133·83
All ages	...	17·29	24·48	24·30	18·66	15·61
<i>Females.</i>						
0-15	...	18·50	24·18	24·13	13·85	9·08
15-20	...	1·88	2·02	3·52	2·34	1·17
20-25	...	3·54	4·23	3·05	3·34	2·18
25-35	...	4·51	5·72	5·65	3·75	3·58
35-45	...	7·94	12·53	11·55	7·68	5·29
45-55	...	7·87	13·63	17·01	11·80	7·42
55-65	...	22·97	29·15	32·10	27·42	14·83
65 and upwards	...	73·10	116·12	112·38	86·78	92·20
All ages	...	12·63	17·08	17·62	13·28	10·76

Compared with the census years—1900-2—the mortality from respiratory diseases for the last three years shows a substantial decline at each age group up to 55-65, inclusive, the reduction for all ages amounting to 16 per cent. in the male and 19 per cent. in the female rate. At each census date the male exceeded the female rate, the average excess for the five census periods being 40 per cent.

Influenza
and
respiratory
diseases
(combined).

The average yearly proportion of deaths from influenza and respiratory diseases (combined) per 10,000 males and females respectively living at different ages at five census periods, is shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM INFLUENZA AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES (COMBINED).

Age Group.		1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
<i>Males.</i>						
0-15	...	23·34	29·36	31·02	17·63	11·22
15-20	...	3·05	3·37	3·56	3·04	1·95
20-25	...	5·70	5·34	6·08	5·44	2·42
25-35	...	5·74	8·38	8·35	6·73	3·78
35-45	...	10·33	15·80	16·59	10·80	9·37
45-55	...	20·52	26·83	30·30	21·24	17·05
55-65	...	42·46	51·89	69·16	43·62	30·90
65 and upwards	...	109·20	138·90	168·20	129·40	142·93
All ages	...	17·62	24·73	28·24	20·96	16·63

DEATH RATES FROM INFLUENZA AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES
(COMBINED)—*continued.*

Age Group.	1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
<i>Females.</i>					
0-15 ...	19.02	24.52	25.99	15.00	9.49
15-20 ...	1.88	2.02	4.44	3.17	1.41
20-25 ...	3.54	4.23	4.33	4.03	2.43
25-35 ...	4.58	5.79	8.00	4.64	3.83
35-45 ...	7.94	12.61	15.66	9.54	5.68
45-55 ...	8.04	13.63	22.40	13.82	7.92
55-65 ...	23.36	29.77	43.56	32.95	16.34
65 and upwards ...	73.94	119.30	147.60	102.80	102.21
All ages ...	12.91	17.32	21.34	15.41	11.68

The mortality rates from influenza and respiratory diseases combined showed a considerable decrease for both sexes at the last census period as compared with the preceding one, such decrease amounting to 21 per cent. in the male and 24 per cent. in the female rate. Excepting the age groups 15-20 in 1890-2 and 1900-2, and 20-25 and 25-35 in 1909-11, the proportion of deaths of males from these diseases at the different age periods was greater in every instance than that for females. The difference in favour of the latter was somewhat small up to the age of 35, but for subsequent ages it was very considerable, the female rate for the age groups 35-55 being only about two-thirds of that for males.

During 1911 there were 1,763 deaths ascribed to organic heart disease, 16 to pericarditis, 75 to acute endocarditis, and 40 to angina pectoris. The total—1,894—from the above causes represented a rate of 1,434 per million of the population, as compared with 1,423 in the previous year, 1,517 in 1909, 1,404 in 1908, and 1,264 in 1907. Of the 1,894 persons who died from these diseases in 1911, only 42 or 2.2 per cent. were under 15 years of age. On the average of the three years 1909 to 1911, the deaths from all forms of heart disease per 10,000 of each sex in age periods were as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM HEART DISEASE AT VARIOUS AGES.

Sex.	Deaths per 10,000 Persons aged—									
	0-15.	15-20.	20-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	65-75.	75 and upwards.	All Ages.
Males ..	1.22	2.29	2.57	2.94	6.51	15.98	47.88	129.57	249.73	15.37
Females ..	1.18	1.90	1.62	3.04	7.07	15.83	36.62	111.16	222.63	13.45

Heart disease.

The foregoing figures show that at the last census period heart disease was more fatal among males than females at every age, except 25-35 and 35-45, and that the greatest proportionate excess, amounting to nearly 59 per cent., occurred in the age group 20-25.

Diseases
of the
digestive
system.

In 1911 there were 1,603 deaths from digestive ailments (excluding hydatids), representing a proportion of 1,213 per million of the population, which was considerably below the average of the preceding five years, and lower by 48 per cent. than the rate—2,331—experienced in 1890-2. Victorian experience shows that more than half of the mortality from digestive maladies has been ascribed to diseases of a diarrhoeal nature. In 1911 diarrhoeal complaints were responsible for 897 deaths, equivalent to 679 per million, which was the lowest recorded, and nearly 50 per cent. below the ratio—1,342—for 1890-2. In 1907, 1908, 1909, and 1910, the rates per million were 718, 1,061, 756, and 918 respectively. The age incidence of this disease is heaviest at the extremes of life. Of the 897 deaths in the year under review, 678 or 76 per cent., were of children under 2 years of age. The seasonal influence on the mortality is more strongly marked among infants than aged people, as is evidenced by the fact that 48 per cent. of the deaths of children under 2 years from diarrhoea and enteritis occurred in the three months ending in March, as compared with 39 per cent. of the deaths at other ages.

Appendi-
citis.

Of the total deaths attributed to diseases of the digestive system in 1911 about 1 in every 15 was due to appendicitis. The experience of the five years 1907-11 shows that this disease is more fatal to males than females, and that the incidence of mortality is greatest between ages 15 and 35. The deaths numbered 107 in 1911, 108 in 1910, 95 in 1909, 101 in 1908, and 82 in 1907, and corresponded to rates of 83, 83, 74, 80, and 66 per million of the population respectively, as against 64 in England and Wales in 1909. Hospital records show that the fatality rate has steadily diminished. During 1911 there were 1,012 cases treated, and 52, or 5 per cent., ended fatally as compared with a fatality rate of nearly 7 per cent. on the average of the preceding five years.

Diseases of
urinary
system.

A very marked alteration in the crude mortality rates from diseases of the urinary system has taken place in recent years. Excepting urinary calculi, all the important diseases constituting this group exhibit higher rates, which are now in excess of the proportions in England and Wales. In the year under review—1911—960 deaths were attributed to these diseases, which corresponded to a rate of 727 per million of the population, as against 408 in 1890-2, or to an increase of 78 per cent. in the intervening years. Bright's disease, uræmia, and nephritis were responsible for 779 deaths, or over 81 per cent., and complaints of the bladder and prostate for 127 deaths, or 13 per cent of the total referred to maladies of the urinary system.

The deaths per 10,000 of each sex in age groups for the periods 1890-2, 1900-2, and 1909-11 are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex Living.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
0-10	1.16	.93	.55	.97	.59	.67
10-20 ... ..	.43	.45	.51	.58	.82	.69
20-30	1.45	1.83	1.75	1.82	1.59	1.58
30-40	3.05	3.55	2.55	4.72	4.21	3.33
40-50	7.36	8.12	7.32	6.63	7.26	6.80
50-60	11.90	17.43	16.01	5.91	11.36	12.34
60-70	27.42	39.62	44.54	9.62	21.49	20.71
70-80	58.98	80.68	95.70	14.62	27.70	37.22
80 and over	74.07	128.48	138.20	22.21	27.15	43.70
All Ages	5.25	8.05	8.40	2.84	4.28	4.91

Mortality rates among males under 60, and females under 70 were lower, but at older ages they were higher in 1909-11 than at the previous census period. The most noticeable decrease occurred in the rates for men and women between 30 and 40 years of age. For the last three years the average rate for males of all ages exceeded the average female rate by 71 per cent.

The ages and sexes of those who died from pulmonary tuberculosis in 1911, and in the decennium ended 1910, are given in the next table:—

Deaths from phthisis at various ages.

DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS AT VARIOUS AGES.

Ages.	Males.		Females.	
	1901 to 1910.	Year 1911.	1901 to 1910.	Year 1911.
0-10	66	4	86	9
10-15	50	4	142	8
15-20	323	26	551	54
20-25	579	50	777	87
25-30	742	56	863	79
30-35	761	67	767	73
35-40	854	60	731	55
40-45	775	83	478	43
45-50	674	61	353	38
50-55	531	59	195	19
55-60	423	43	170	18
60-65	397	28	128	12
65-70	431	23	124	7
70 and over	436	29	121	8
Total	7,042	598	5,486	510

Notwithstanding the great increase in population the deaths from phthisis in 1911 were at nearly every age below the annual average of the preceding decennium. The decreases from period to period are dealt with in subsequent paragraphs.

Death rates
from
phthisis.

The deaths from phthisis in 1911 numbered 1,108—598 being of males and 510 of females—and equalled a rate of 839 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 830 in the previous year, 848 in 1909, 955 in 1908, 958 in 1907, and 1,365 in 1890-2. The improvement in the death rate from this cause since 1890-2 was equivalent to the saving of 695 lives during 1911. The rates are more fully shown in the following table, which gives the mortality per 10,000 of the population of each sex, in age groups, at six census periods:—

DEATH RATES IN VICTORIA FROM PHTHISIS IN AGE GROUPS AT THE LAST SIX CENSUS PERIODS.

Age Group.	Annual Mortality from Phthisis per 10,000 of each Sex Living.					
	1860-2.	1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
<i>Males.</i>						
0 to 15 ...	2·55	1·22	1·74	·90	·38	·53
15 " 20 ...	7·72	5·71	6·88	5·41	5·06	4·04
20 " 25 ...	12·23	18·75	21·19	18·29	14·35	7·31
25 " 35 ...	16·53	22·21	30·33	23·70	20·31	12·90
35 " 45 ...	21·63	21·83	25·11	28·28	22·07	16·60
45 " 55 ...	23·14	22·24	28·65	31·17	25·05	17·74
55 " 65 ...	25·63	27·86	31·41	36·48	35·75	21·16
65 and upwards ...	23·20	19·56	18·08	25·40	31·07	15·63
All Ages ...	13·33	12·89	15·33	15·73	13·51	9·23
<i>Females.</i>						
0 to 15 ...	3·70	·98	1·76	1·43	·93	·71
15 " 20 ...	14·07	12·37	12·50	9·51	8·18	7·89
20 " 25 ...	18·95	19·28	21·00	18·49	12·79	12·34
25 " 35 ...	24·76	22·02	26·56	21·77	18·15	14·33
35 " 45 ...	25·62	21·65	24·06	22·53	17·74	11·05
45 " 55 ...	25·01	19·60	20·72	16·13	14·41	7·97
55 " 65 ...	22·59	10·51	14·26	12·35	12·52	7·77
65 and upwards ...	18·03	12·61	13·12	8·25	8·18	5·49
All Ages ...	14·46	10·62	12·75	11·51	9·72	7·52

A comparison of the mortalities from pulmonary tuberculosis at the last two census periods shows that, except for males under 15, lower death rates obtained at each age group during 1909-11 than in 1900-2, and that the improvement was greater among males than females. An analysis of the figures discloses the fact that at certain ages the decrease was very slight in the female rate, while in the male rate it was very considerable. Taking three important periods of life, 15-20, 20-25, and 25-35, it is found that between the last two censuses the rates for males declined by 20, 49, and 36 per cent. respectively, as compared with reductions of only $3\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{1}{2}$, and 21 per cent. in the rates for females. The heavy decline in the death rate from phthisis among men between 20 and 35 years of age is very striking, especially as it is co-incident with a reduction of 47 per cent. in the mortality rate from other diseases of the respiratory system. By combining the death rates from pulmonary tuberculosis, as shown above, with those from other forms of tubercular disease, given in a subsequent page, it appears that the section of the community represented by females aged 15 to 25 was the only one which experienced no relief from tubercular diseases in 1909-11, as compared with the preceding census period. It is probable that this result is partly due to the increased proportion of females engaged in manufacturing industries. Comparing the numbers of females aged 15 to 25 employed in factories with the total females of similar age in the community, it is found that between the 1901 and the 1911 census there was an increase of 78 per cent. in the proportion exposed to the greater tubercular infection of factory employment.

Death rates from pulmonary tuberculosis, per 10,000 of the population, in various countries, for the latest year for which this information is available, and in the Australian States for 1911, are given in the following table:—

Pulmonary tuberculosis in various countries.

DEATH RATES FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Population.	Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Population.
Servia ...	1908	31.2	The Netherlands	1909	12.3
Austria ...	1908	30.2	Ontario, Province of	1908	11.3
Norway ...	1908	18.8	England and Wales	1909	10.8
Switzerland	1908	17.3	Belgium ...	1908	10.1
Ireland ...	1910	17.2	Victoria ...	1911	8.4
Prussia ...	1909	15.5	South Australia ..	1911	6.8
Japan ...	1908	15.5	New South Wales	1911	6.6
German Empire ...	1908	15.2	Western Australia	1911	6.4
United States ...	1909	14.4	Tasmania ...	1911	6.2
Scotland ...	1909	12.8	Queensland ...	1911	5.6
Spain ...	1909	12.4	New Zealand ...	1910	5.5

It appears that the deaths attributable to pulmonary tuberculosis are more numerous in proportion to population in Victoria than in the other States and New Zealand, but are less numerous than in the other countries mentioned.

Tubercular death rates in Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo.

The local distribution of tuberculous mortality shows that certain urban centres—particularly Bendigo and suburbs—furnish considerably higher death rates than the rural portions of the State. The tubercular death rate amongst miners is very considerably in excess of that among farmers and graziers, and as mining occupations predominate in Bendigo and suburbs, and farming and grazing occupations in the rural districts, the distribution of callings accounts in a large measure for the disparity in the mortality rates from this cause in the divisions of the State referred to. The rates show that during the past five years 9 more persons in every 10,000 of the population died each year from tubercular diseases in Bendigo than in Melbourne and suburbs, or Ballarat. The rates in these localities from phthisis and other tubercular diseases are given in the following table for the periods 1891-1900 and 1901-5, and for each of the last six years:—

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES IN MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, AND BENDIGO, 1891-1911.

Period.	Deaths per 10,000 of the Population.								
	Phthisis.			Other Tubercular Diseases.			All Tubercular Diseases.		
	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.
1891-1900 ..	16·7	17·1	24·1	4·7	3·5	4·0	21·4	20·6	28·1
1901-1905 ..	13·9	15·3	22·7	4·2	4·0	4·7	18·1	19·3	27·4
1906 ..	11·5	13·2	21·7	3·9	2·3	2·5	15·4	15·5	24·2
1907 ..	11·6	10·5	20·2	3·4	1·8	2·0	15·0	12·3	22·2
1908 ..	11·5	13·3	18·4	2·6	2·1	1·3	14·1	15·4	19·7
1909 ..	9·7	9·4	22·9	2·6	1·9	3·2	12·3	11·3	26·1
1910 ..	9·7	11·0	22·8	2·4	2·5	1·1	12·1	13·5	23·9
1911 ..	9·9	9·4	19·5	2·6	3·3	2·5	12·5	12·7	22·0
Average of 1907-11..	10·5	10·7	20·8	2·7	2·3	2·0	13·2	13·0	22·8

The tubercular death rates for Bendigo and Ballarat were lower, but the rate for Greater Melbourne was slightly higher in 1911 than in the preceding year. In each of these areas the proportionate mortality from tubercular diseases shows a substantial reduction as compared with fairly recent periods, the deaths per 10,000 of population having been fewer by 5·6 in Melbourne, 6·6 in Ballarat, and 5·4 in Bendigo during 1911 than in 1901-5.

Particulars of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis occurring in the State were investigated for the first time in 1911. The cases dealt with were those reported to the Board of Health during the two and a half years ended 30th June, 1911, numbering 3,198. Valuable information was obtained from them regarding the prevalence of the disease in various areas, the incidence of attack at different ages for each sex and the time which elapsed from the commencement of the disease to the date on which a medical practitioner was consulted. These and other phases of the disease, including the probability of recovering therefrom, are dealt with in subsequent paragraphs. The persons reported during the two and a half years referred to as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis are arranged in the subjoined table according to sex, age, and usual place of residence:—

Ages and residence of tubercular patients.

AGE AND RESIDENCE OF REPORTED TUBERCULAR PATIENTS, 1909 TO 30TH JUNE, 1911.

SEX.	AGE.														Total all Ages.
	0-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30-35	35-40	40-45	45-50	50-55	55-60	60-65	65-70	70 and over.	
GREATER MELBOURNE.															
Males ..	12	17	98	114	130	108	105	98	99	56	45	30	11	14	987
Females ..	12	22	134	211	170	140	110	68	37	29	16	7	10	9	975
Total ..	24	39	232	325	300	248	215	166	136	85	61	37	21	23	1,912
BENDIGO AND SUBURBS.															
Males ..	1	3	10	10	14	14	36	32	40	23	12	13	13	8	229
Females ..	3	1	16	23	19	16	8	10	10	3	2	4	1	2	118
Total ..	4	4	26	33	33	30	44	42	50	26	14	17	14	10	347
BALLARAT AND SUBURBS.															
Males ..	2	1	3	7	13	6	6	11	12	8	5	4	1	2	81
Females ..	1	2	9	7	11	6	9	4	6	..	..	..	..	1	56
Total ..	3	3	12	14	24	12	15	15	18	8	5	4	1	3	137
GEEELONG AND SUBURBS.															
Males ..	..	1	1	5	3	5	4	..	4	1	..	1	..	1	26
Females ..	..	1	4	10	11	3	4	4	3	3	1	1	..	..	45
Total ..	..	2	5	15	14	8	8	4	7	4	1	2	..	1	71
REST OF THE STATE.															
Males ..	5	6	26	51	60	50	30	41	44	32	24	19	11	7	406
Females ..	2	8	35	58	66	42	46	17	17	14	7	4	6	3	325
Total ..	7	14	61	109	126	92	76	58	61	46	31	23	17	10	731
VICTORIA.															
Males ..	20	28	138	187	220	183	181	182	199	120	86	67	36	32	1,679
Females ..	18	34	198	309	277	207	177	163	73	49	26	16	17	15	1,519
Total ..	38	62	336	496	497	390	358	285	272	169	112	83	53	47	3,198

An examination of the ages of the persons in the above areas shows that an undue proportion of the males and females affected in early life resided in the metropolis. During the two and a half years, ended June, 1911, there were 545 males and 784 females, aged 15-30, reported, for the whole State, as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, of whom 342 of the former and 515 of the latter were residents of Melbourne. These proportions point to unfavorable conditions in city as compared with country life. An analysis of the figures for Bendigo shows that the incidence of the disease among females was somewhat heavier at most age groups than that for the metropolitan area, while among males it was considerably heavier, especially at older ages. The result for males corresponds with the mortality from phthisis in Bendigo, where many miners, past middle life, suffering from chronic respiratory diseases, subsequently die from tuberculosis.

Frequency of phthisis. The annual attack rate from phthisis per 10,000 of each sex at various ages in Greater Melbourne, and the whole State, and the ratios for the State of female to male cases, the latter being taken as 100 at each age group, were as follows:—

ATTACK RATES FROM PHTHISIS.

Age Group.	Greater Melbourne.		Victoria.			
	Attack Rate per 10,000.		Attack Rate per 10,000.		Ratio of Female to Male Rate, the latter being taken as 100.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
0-10	0·87	0·89	0·58	0·54	93	
10-15	2·65	3·39	1·76	2·18	124	
15-20	13·58	16·73	8·16	11·71	143	
20-25	16·54	25·25	12·14	18·99	156	
25-30	22·36	24·13	17·05	19·97	117	
30-35	22·22	23·50	16·38	17·09	104	
35-40	24·36	20·45	17·59	15·94	91	
40-45	21·57	12·97	17·18	9·74	57	
45-50	22·03	7·64	19·48	7·62	39	
50-55	15·72	7·81	15·10	6·68	44	
55-60	20·79	6·85	17·71	5·65	32	
60-65	20·10	4·83	19·42	4·49	23	
65 and over ..	8·12	4·67	8·07	3·69	46	
All ages	13·75	12·79	10·36	9·34	90	

An examination of the above table shows that the frequency of the disease is greater among females than males at each age group between 10 and 35, particularly at ages 15-20 and 20-25, where the excess amounts to 43 and 56 per cent. respectively. At the age group 35-40 the excess in the male rate is only about 10 per cent., but at older ages the susceptibility of men greatly exceeds that of women,

especially at 55-65, when a man's chance of attack is nearly four times that for a woman. A further analysis of the figures discloses the fact that for both sexes at every age the metropolitan rates are heavier than those for the whole State.

Particulars regarding the time which elapsed between the beginning of pulmonary tuberculosis and the date at which a medical practitioner was consulted, show that of the total patients about 1 in every 8 received advice within three months, and slightly less than 1 in every 3 within six months, while about one-half were medically advised within twelve months of the commencement of the disease. It should, however, be borne in mind that the course of the disease is very irregular, as some cases are not so far advanced in two years as others are in six months. This probably accounts, in some measure, for the fact that about one-half of the people who develop phthisis suffer, in some degree, from it for at least one year before receiving medical attention. It is highly probable that if a physician's advice were obtained at an early stage of the disease in a larger proportion of cases the ratio of recoveries would be greater.

Duration of phthisis before diagnosis.

The proportion of the residents of any large area which is affected by pulmonary tuberculosis represents fairly closely the degree of infection of that centre. Such proportions have been computed for five divisions of the State on the experience of the two and a half years, ended June, 1911. During that period 1,912 residents of Greater Melbourne, 137 of Ballarat and suburbs, 347 of Bendigo and suburbs, 71 of Geelong and suburbs, and 731 of the "rest of the State" contracted the disease. Comparing these numbers with the respective populations it is found that of every 10,000 persons 13.1 in the Metropolitan area, 11.6 in Ballarat, 31.6 in Bendigo, 10.2 in Geelong, and 4.9 in the rest of the State contracted tuberculosis of the lungs each year. The rate of Bendigo was higher than that of any other area. It was nearly two and a half times that of Melbourne, and more than six times the rate for country districts. The low rate existing in the latter division does not, however, fully represent the degree of infection therein. This is evidenced by figures given below which show that in this area the attack rate was lower than the death rate, while in each of the other areas it was higher. The annual notifications of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and the annual deaths therefrom per 10,000 of the population of each of the five divisions referred to and of the whole State are compared in the following table:—

Frequency of phthisis in various areas

ANNUAL REPORT RATE OF AND DEATH RATE FROM PHTHISIS.

	Per 10,000 of the Population of—					
	Melbourne.	Ballarat.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Rest of the State.	The Whole State.
Cases Notified ..	13.1	11.6	31.6	10.2	4.9	9.8
Deaths	9.5	9.9	21.8	7.2	6.1	8.3

The report rate exceeded the death rate by 38 per cent. in the Metropolis, by 17 per cent. in Ballarat, by 45 per cent. in Bendigo, by 42 per cent. in Geelong, and by 18 per cent. in the whole State. From the deficiency in the report or notification rate for the "rest of the State" it would appear that numerous cases occurring therein have not been reported to the Board of Health, or that many residents of the metropolis and of the three other large cities referred to, who contract phthisis, leave these areas and reside in country districts, where some of them subsequently die from the disease. The latter is true to some extent, but it accounts for only a portion of the discrepancy mentioned. If all cases occurring in the rural areas were notified, it is probable that the report rate would slightly exceed the death rate.

In a previous paragraph it was stated that the attack rate of tuberculosis for a large area represented the degree of infection of that centre. This may be taken as true when applied to the metropolis as a whole, but it cannot be accepted as correct for each of its parts, as the place of residence of a large proportion of the people differs from their place of work or business. For the two and a half years ended June, 1911, the cases reported annually per 10,000 of the population of the principal metropolitan municipalities were as follows:—

**NOTIFIED TUBERCULAR CASES PER 10,000 OF POPULATION OF
METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES.**

Municipality.	Cases per 10,000 of the Population.	Municipality.	Cases per 10,000 of the Population.
Preston Shire ...	20·2	Richmond City ...	12·1
Port Melbourne Town ...	18·7	Brighton Town ...	10·4
Melbourne City ...	18·1	Hawthorn City ...	10·3
Fitzroy City ...	17·3	Northcote Town ...	10·0
Brunswick City ...	17·1	Essendon City ...	9·8
Coburg Shire ...	15·4	Kew Town ...	9·8
South Melbourne City ...	15·2	Footscray City ...	9·2
Camberwell Town ...	14·0	St. Kilda City ...	6·7
Prahran City ...	13·4	Malvern City ...	6·6
Collingwood City ...	12·5	Caulfield Town ...	5·2
Williamstown Town...	12·2		

The tabulation of particulars of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis reported during two and a half years has furnished data which, in conjunction with the known incidence of tubercular mortality, enable a fairly reliable estimate to be made of the probability of recovering from the disease. In arriving at such an estimate allowances must be made for some old standing cases, which were probably reported prior to 1909, as well as for the deficiency in the notifications for rural areas and certain other disturbing elements of a less important character. Adopting the records of reported cases and the deaths as the basis, and taking into account the disturbing factors mentioned above, a calculation shows that, of the individuals who contract tuberculosis of the lungs in a form sufficiently serious to require medical attention, about 1 in every 6 recovers.

Probability of recovering from phthisis.

In 1911 there were in Victoria 246 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding phthisis), which corresponded to a rate of 186 per million, as compared with rates of 176 in the previous year, 192 in 1909, 200 in 1908, 209 in 1907, and 379 in 1890-2. The death rates in various age groups are shown in the following table for five census periods:—

Tubercular diseases (phthisis excepted).

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES (PHTHISIS EXCEPTED) IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex Living.				
	1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
<i>Males.</i>					
0-15 ...	7.53	7.98	10.36	5.64	2.83
15-20 ...	.64	.81	1.17	1.12	1.08
20-25 ...	1.80	1.23	.89	1.77	1.18
25-35 ...	.70	.66	.84	1.91	1.68
35-45 ...	.77	.88	.77	1.39	1.64
45-55 ...	.95	.85	.67	1.64	1.05
55-65 ...	.88	1.07	.78	2.40	1.89
65 and over	1.09	2.36	.56	1.17	.89
All ages	3.46	3.55	4.02	2.99	1.84
<i>Females.</i>					
0-15 ...	5.89	7.28	8.43	5.33	2.27
15-20 ...	.82	1.30	1.27	1.95	2.27
20-25 ...	.52	.69	1.23	2.09	2.45
25-35 ...	.54	.41	.88	1.98	1.70
35-45 ...	1.04	.70	.42	1.77	1.81
45-55 ...	.17	.67	.34	1.01	.93
55-65 ...	.39	.62	.69	.71	1.21
65 and over	1.69	1.19	.64	.71	.48
All ages	3.10	3.39	3.58	2.91	1.86

As compared with the period 1900-2 the proportion of persons under 15 years of age dying from tubercular diseases (excluding phthisis), during 1909-11 represents a decline of 50 per cent. for males and of 57 per cent. for females.

The experience of recent years shows that the tubercular death rate in Victoria is but slightly affected by the arrival from beyond Australia of persons suffering from tubercular diseases. In 1911 two-thirds per cent. of the persons who died were born outside and resident less than one year in Australia, and one per cent. had resided in the continent for a shorter period than five years.

Cancer—
deaths at
various
ages.

The number dying from cancer at different age groups in 1911, and the yearly average at the same ages for the period 1901-10 are given below:—

DEATHS FROM CANCER AT VARIOUS AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Males.		Females.	
	Yearly Average, 1901-10.	1911.	Yearly Average, 1901-10	1911.
0-15 ...	5	8	3	4
15-25 ...	6	5	4	6
25-35 ...	9	7	13	20
35-45 ...	34	22	59	57
45-55 ...	79	119	90	125
55-65 ...	107	121	102	125
65-75 ...	159	141	121	128
75-85 ..	81	98	60	85
85 and over	12	14	9	15
Total ...	492	535	461	565

In the decennium ended 1911, of every 100 persons who died from cancer only 4 were under 35, and slightly less than 14 were under 45 years of age. The widely different social and economic effects produced by the prevalence of and deaths from the two important diseases—cancer and phthisis—are evidenced by the ages of their victims. For the decennial period 1902-11, the average age of those who died from cancer was 62.8 years for males, and 59.9 years for females, whilst the corresponding averages for phthisis were 42.7 years for males, and 34.3 years for females.

Cancer—
death rates
at different
ages.

Deaths from cancer in 1911 numbered 1,100, and represented a death rate of 833 per million of the whole population as compared with rates of 832 in the previous year, 802 in 1909, 794 in 1908, and 796 in 1907. Cancer rates, computed in relation to the general population in earlier and later periods, are not fairly comparable, owing to the changed age distribution of the people. A more accurate mortality rate is obtained by comparing the deaths with the persons of the same sex living in age groups, and this has been done for the census periods 1880-2, 1890-2, 1900-2, and 1909-11,

when the numbers of the people in age groups were accurately known:—

DEATH RATES FROM CANCER IN AGE GROUPS DURING THE YEARS
1880-2, 1890-2, 1900-2, 1909-11.

Age Group.	Deaths from Cancer per 10,000 of each Sex Living.			
	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1909-11.
<i>Males.</i>				
Under 5 ...	·29	·18	·30	·64
5 to 10 ...	·24	·10	·42	·20
10 " 15 ...	·18	·11	·20	·16
15 " 20 ...	·07	·17	·22	·24
20 " 25 ...	·25	·32	·33	·43
25 " 35 ...	·80	·81	1·26	·86
35 " 45 ...	4·12	4·29	3·69	3·58
45 " 55 ...	10·16	14·83	14·14	15·85
55 " 65 ...	22·01	31·92	36·00	35·56
65 " 75 ...	34·55	52·75	59·04	73·36
75 and over	45·12	53·55	74·04	85·25
All ages	4·29	6·16	7·52	8·36
<i>Females.</i>				
Under 5 ...	·12	·09	·26	·14
5 to 10 ...	·12	·10	·04	·05
10 " 15 ...	·06	·06	—	·21
15 " 20 ...	·26	·12	·28	·44
20 " 25 ...	·39	·22	·23	·35
25 " 35 ...	2·65	1·68	1·61	1·37
35 " 45 ...	7·32	7·43	6·05	7·29
45 " 55 ...	15·07	18·00	18·13	16·23
55 " 65 ...	29·35	31·79	33·05	33·01
65 " 75 ...	32·68	53·96	51·18	57·41
75 and over	27·56	49·55	62·70	77·49
All ages	4·27	5·57	6·64	8·07

Deaths from cancer occurred at every age, but the rates in the foregoing table show that it is essentially a disease of later life, increasing rapidly in the groups past middle age, and reaching a maximum mortality rate in the oldest age group. A comparison of the figures for the last two census periods, which would not be appreciably affected by differences in the diagnosis of the disease, shows that for ages under 45 a perceptible increase occurred in the rate for females, and a slight reduction in that for males. For the next age group 45-55, the male rate increased by nearly 9 per cent., a result which was neutralized by a decrease of 10 per cent. in that for females. For the following age group 55-65 the rates for each sex were almost identical at the two census periods. It would thus appear that among persons under 65 years of age there was no definite increase in cancer mortality in the intercensal period. On the other hand among persons aged 65-75, and 75 and upwards the death rates from the disease were considerably heavier in 1909-11 than in 1900-2.

Seat of
Cancer.

The following table shows the seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1911:—

SEAT OF CANCER, 1911.

Seat of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cancer of the buccal cavity (mouth, &c.) ...	86	7	93
„ the stomach and liver ...	246	182	428
„ the peritoneum, the intestines, and the rectum ...	41	61	102
„ the female genital organs ...	...	109	109
„ the breast ...	...	82	82
„ the skin ...	22	19	41
„ other and unspecified organs ...	140	105	245
Total Deaths ...	535	565	1,100

Nearly two-fifths of the persons who died from cancer were affected in the stomach and liver. Of the total females dying from the disease one-third were affected in the genital organs and the breast.

Death rates
from
cancer in
various
countries.

Deaths from cancer per 10,000 of the population in various countries, for the latest year for which this information is available, are given in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM CANCER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Popu- lation.	Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Popu- lation.
Switzerland ...	1908	13·1	New Zealand ...	1910	7·5
The Netherlands ...	1908	10·3	New South Wales	1911	7·5
Scotland ...	1909	10·2	South Australia ...	1911	7·3
Norway ...	1908	9·7	Tasmania ...	1911	6·9
England and Wales	1909	9·5	Queensland ...	1911	6·4
Ireland ...	1910	8·4	Belgium ...	1908	6·4
German Empire ...	1908	8·3	Italy ...	1909	6·4
Victoria ...	1911	8·3	Western Australia	1911	6·2
Austria ...	1908	7·7	Ontario, Province of	1908	6·1
United States ...	1909	7·7			

Victoria showed a lower death rate from cancer than six of the above countries, but a higher one than any of the other Australian States. The higher crude rate in Victoria, as compared with the other States, is chiefly due to the larger proportion of elderly people in the community amongst whom the mortality is greatest.

Senile
decay.

Deaths are not attributed to senile decay or old age unless the deceased had attained an age of 65 years or over. During the year 1911, 754 male and 617 female deaths were ascribed to this cause.

The deaths at these ages from all causes during the year numbered 5,904—3,261 of males and 2,643 of females. It is thus seen that 23.1 per cent. of the male and 23.3 per cent. of the female deaths for ages 65 years and upwards were due to senile decay. The death rates of elderly persons in several age groups have been computed for the average of the three years 1909-11, when the numbers of persons within those divisions were accurately known. These show that of every 100 persons in the respective groups, there died within a year, from all causes, 4.15 aged 65 to 70, 6.60 aged 70 to 75, 10.66 aged 75 to 80, 15.07 aged 80 to 85, 22.88 aged 85-90, and 32.13 aged 90 and upwards.

Death rates from accidental violence have been lower in later than in earlier periods, a result that is chiefly due to the lighter mortality rate from accidental drowning. In 1911 there were 465 male and 154 female deaths attributed to accidents and negligence, which represented a rate of 469 per million of the population. This proportion was 16 per cent. below the average of the previous five years and about 42 per cent. below the rate—811—for 1890-2. The greatest reduction occurred in the death rate from drowning, which was 110 per million in 1911, as against 200 in 1890-2. Of the deaths ascribed to drowning, 120 were of males, and 25 of females. Burns were responsible for 29 male and 43 female deaths as compared with 34 and 59 in the preceding year. Fractures and other accidental injuries accounted for 252 male and 59 female deaths, as against 277 and 59 in 1910. Mortality rates from accidental violence are considerably heavier in the country than in Greater Melbourne, the rates per million for the year 1911 having been 554 and 365 respectively. In the year under review 1 male death and 2 female deaths occurred through the administration of anæsthetics by medical practitioners. The number of instances in which anæsthetics were administered in the same period is not available for the purpose of computing a fatality rate.

Accidental violence.

During the year 1911, 116 males and 35 females took their own lives. The deaths represented a rate of 114 per million of the population as compared with rates of 101 in 1910, 92 in 1909 and 1908, 95 in 1907, and 109 in 1890-2. The rate in the year under review was slightly higher than that for Australia—111—in the previous year, and was 14 per cent. above that for England and Wales—100—in 1909. A much lower rate from suicide obtains among females than males, the rate for the former being less than one-third of that for the latter on the average of the past three years.

Suicide.

The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1911 numbered 24, of which 12 were of males and 12 of females. These represented a rate of 18 per million of the population, which was equal to the average of the previous five years, but was 47 per cent. below the proportion for 1890-2. The death rate from homicide in Victoria for the period 1907-11 was slightly more than twice that prevailing in England and Wales.

Homicide.

Deaths of
married
women in
childbed.

The experience of the period 1906-11 shows that the death rate of women in childbed varies considerably at different ages, and is less between 20 and 25 years than at younger or older age periods. The number of married mothers, the deaths in childbed, and the death rates for various age groups, are shown for the six years 1906-11 in the following table:—

DEATH RATES OF MARRIED MOTHERS IN CHILDBED IN AGE GROUPS,
1906-1911.

Age Group.	Married Mothers.		
	Confinements.	Deaths.	Deaths per 1,000 Confinements.
Under 20 years	4,704	16	3.40
20 to 25 "	35,735	105	2.94
25 " 30 "	50,022	175	3.50
30 " 35 "	41,695	215	5.16
35 " 40 "	30,375	197	6.49
40 " 45 "	12,554	91	7.25

A rapidly increasing death rate is shown for each succeeding age group beyond 20-25, the rate for 40-45 being nearly three times that for 20-25. During the last six years the number of deaths per 1,000 married women in first confinements was 5.09 as against an average of 4.36 for subsequent ones.

Deaths in
childbed.

The death rate of women in childbed is usually ascertained by comparing the number of deaths of parturient women with the total number of births. The proportion of deaths of child-bearing women fell decade by decade from 64 per 10,000 in 1871-80 to 52 in 1902-1911. The proportions which prevailed in the last six years, and the averages of previous periods back to 1871 are given in the following table:—

DEATHS OF MOTHERS (MARRIED AND SINGLE) TO EVERY 10,000
CHILDREN BORN ALIVE.

Period.	Number of Mothers who Died Annually of—			Deaths of Mothers to every 10,000 Children Born Alive.
	Puerperal Diseases or Accidents. (Excluding Septicæmia.)	Puerperal Septicæmia.	Total.	
1871-1880 ..	127	46	173	64.38
1881-1890 ..	121	64	185	59.19
1891-1900 ..	117	66	183	56.01
1901-1905 ..	126	58	180	60.92
1906 ..	115	51	166	53.82
1907 ..	119	43	162	51.64
1908 ..	80	48	128	41.16
1909 ..	97	36	133	42.16
1910 ..	94	54	148	47.08
1911 ..	86	62	148	44.79

The proportion per 1,000 births of deaths in childbirth from septic diseases was 1.88 in 1911, 1.72 in 1910, 1.14 in 1909, 1.54 in 1908, 1.37 in 1907, 1.65 in 1906, and 1.93 in 1901-5. In England and Wales for 1909 the proportion was 1.48.

Deaths in
childbed
from septic
diseases.

NATURAL INCREASE.

The natural increase, *i.e.*, the excess of births over deaths, per 1,000 of the population, in the various Australian States and New Zealand for the period 1902-6, and for each of the years 1907 to 1911, is shown in the following table:—

Natural
increase
per 1,000
of popula-
tion in
Australasia.

NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION, AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	12.30	15.76	15.41	13.28	18.04	18.12	14.68	16.94
1907	13.43	16.58	16.52	13.95	18.15	18.46	15.58	16.35
1908	12.11	16.64	16.48	14.75	18.16	18.85	15.29	17.83
1909	13.35	17.58	17.55	15.76	18.47	19.89	16.30	18.07
1910	12.86	18.09	17.61	16.17	17.80	18.56	16.30	16.46
1911	13.49	18.34	17.01	17.07	18.05	18.51	16.60	16.58
Mean 07-11	13.05	17.45	17.03	15.54	18.13	18.85	16.01	17.07

The mean natural increase in the Australian States for the period 1907-11, *viz.*, 16.01 per 1,000 of population, is probably greater than that which will prevail when the age constitution of the people becomes similar to that of old settled countries. At present the proportion of elderly people is smaller than in these countries, and, partly as a consequence of this, the death rate is lower. It has been shown in a previous paragraph that the Victorian death rates at nearly all periods of life are below those of England and Wales. The Australian annual rate of increase due to excess of births over deaths—16.01—would enable a population to double itself in 43 years, whilst at the Victorian rate of 13.05 per 1,000 of population a period of 53 years would be required.

Natural increase per 1,000 of population in various countries.

The rate of natural increase in Australia for 1907-11 is higher than that in Japan and all European countries, except Bulgaria and Russia, on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available. The rates for various countries are given below:—

NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population.	Country.	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population.
Tasmania	18·9	Victoria	13·0
Bulgaria	18·9	Norway	12·5
Western Australia ...	18·1	England and Wales ...	11·5
New South Wales ...	17·4	Hungary	11·5
New Zealand	17·1	Scotland	11·4
Queensland	17·0	Italy	11·4
Russia (European) ...	16·8	Austria	11·2
Australia	16·0	Sweden	11·1
South Australia ...	15·5	Japan	10·5
The Netherlands ...	15·3	Switzerland	9·8
Prussia	15·0	Ontario, Province of ...	9·4
Roumania	14·5	Spain	9·3
Denmark	14·5	Belgium	9·0
Germany	14·0	Ireland	6·1
Servia	14·0	France	7

The rate of natural increase in Victoria is lower than in the other States and New Zealand, but higher than in fourteen of the countries enumerated in the above table.

Excess of births over deaths in Australasia.

The following table shows the excess per cent. of births over deaths in each of the Australian States and New Zealand for the period 1902-6, and for each of the five years 1907 to 1911:—

EXCESS PER CENT. OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS, AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	98	147	144	125	150	165	129	174
1907 ...	116	157	160	141	164	164	144	149
1908 ...	97	164	161	150	169	164	140	187
1909 ...	119	176	181	166	181	199	158	196
1910 ...	113	181	182	158	176	164	156	170
1911 ...	117	178	160	174	177	182	155	177
Mean 1907-11	112	171	169	158	173	175	151	176

Taking the average of the period 1907-11, it is seen that the least excess in Australasia was in Victoria, and the greatest in New Zealand. To every hundred deaths that occurred there were 212 births in Victoria, 271 in New South Wales, 269 in Queensland, 258 in South Australia, 273 in Western Australia, 275 in Tasmania, 251 in Australia, and 276 in New Zealand.

The excess per cent. of births over deaths varies very considerably in different portions of the State, being greater in areas which have been settled at a comparatively recent date than in old-established districts. This is specially noticeable in the excess rates for the Mallee, Gippsland, and Wimmera districts, where the loss of population through every 100 deaths was replaced by 440, 308, and 323 births respectively, as against 191 births in the Metropolitan, 227 in the Central, and 202 in the North Central districts. The subjoined table shows the excess per cent. of births over deaths in nine divisions of the State for the period 1905-7 and for each of the last four years:—

Excess of
births over
deaths in
districts.

EXCESS PER CENT. OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS IN DISTRICTS.

District.	Excess per cent. of Births over Deaths.				
	1905-7.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Metropolitan...	81	74	94	85	91
Central ...	121	96	113	112	127
North Central	87	87	95	99	102
Western ...	110	101	118	118	120
Wimmera ...	179	175	210	184	223
Mallee ...	305	331	336	295	340
Northern ...	122	113	134	141	133
North Eastern	133	114	173	161	148
Gippsland ..	235	205	258	233	208
State ...	108	97	119	113	117

The very favorable position of the Mallee, Gippsland, and Wimmera districts in respect of their excess of births over deaths is almost wholly due to their low death rates.

Excess of
births over
deaths in
various
countries.

Although the excess per cent. of births over deaths is lower in Victoria than in the other States and New Zealand, it is higher than in any of the other countries in the following table, on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available:—

EXCESS PER CENT. OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS IN AUSTRALASIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

Country.	Excess per cent. Births over Deaths.	Country.	Excess per cent. Births over Deaths.
New Zealand	176	Sweden	78
Tasmania	175	Germany	77
Western Australia ...	173	Scotland	71
New South Wales ...	171	Ontario, Province of ...	68
Queensland	169	Switzerland... ..	59
South Australia	158	Belgium	56
Australia	151	Russia (European) ...	54
Victoria	112	Italy	54
The Netherlands ...	107	Japan	50
Denmark	106	Austria	48
Norway	91	Hungary	46
Prussia	87	Spain	38
Bulgaria	81	Ireland	35
England and Wales ...	79	France	4

The very favorable position of Australasia as regards the excess of births over deaths is wholly due to its low death rate. Excepting Switzerland, England and Wales, Norway, Belgium,

Sweden, Ireland, France, and Ontario, higher birth rates prevailed in the above countries than in Australia, but this advantage was more than counterbalanced by their higher death rates. On the average of five years, the loss caused by every 100 deaths was compensated by 251 births in Australia, as compared with 207 in The Netherlands (the highest in Europe), 206 in Denmark, 191 in Norway, 187 in Prussia, 179 in England and Wales, 177 in Germany, 171 in Scotland, 154 in Russia, 150 in Japan, and only 104 in France, which had the lowest excess rate of all the countries shown.

The annual rates of increase in population in various countries and the period required for each population to double itself if its rate remain unchanged are shown in the following table:—

Annual increase per cent. in population in various countries.

RATES OF INCREASE IN POPULATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Annual Rate of Increase per cent.	Period required to double Population.
			Years.
Western Australia ...	1901-11	4.29	16
Argentine Republic ...	1901-9	3.38	21
Canada ...	1901-11	2.80	25
New Zealand ...	1901-11	2.70	26
New South Wales ...	1901-11	1.98	35
Queensland ...	1901-11	1.95	36
United States ...	1901-10	1.93	36
Australia ...	1901-11	1.66	42
Prussia ...	1901-10	1.60	44
German Empire ...	1901-10	1.48	47
The Netherlands ...	1901-10	1.45	48
Switzerland ...	1901-10	1.31	53
South Australia ...	1901-11	1.25	56
Japan ...	1901-9	1.18	59
Denmark ...	1901-11	1.14	61
Belgium ...	1901-10	1.12	62
England and Wales ...	1901-11	1.04	67
Tasmania ...	1901-11	1.02	68
Austria ...	1901-10	.93	75
Victoria ...	1901-11	.91	76
Hungary ...	1901-10	.82	85
Sweden ...	1901-10	.77	91
Norway ...	1901-10	.76	92
Italy ...	1901-11	.66	106
Scotland ...	1901-11	.62	112
Spain ...	1901-10	.54	129
France ...	1901-10	.10	697
Ireland ...	1901-11	.17	...

The average annual rate of increase in population in the decennium 1901-1911 was lower in Victoria than in any of the other Australian States. It was slightly more than one-fourth of the rate for the Argentine Republic, one-third of the rates for Canada and New Zealand, and less than one-half of those for New South Wales, Queensland, and the United States. The low rate of increase in Victoria was wholly due to the unfavorable conditions which prevailed in the years 1901 to 1904. The rate for Victoria for the year ended June, 1912, was 2.47 per cent., which was almost double the average annual rate for the preceding five-year period and four and a half times that for the quinquennial period ended June, 1906. Between the years 1901 and 1911 there was a considerable movement of the population towards the metropolis. For the intercensal period, the annual rate of increase in population in Greater Melbourne was 1.78 per cent., or about seven times the rate —.25— in the remainder of the State.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land, in the southern part of Carlton. The University consists of a Council and Senate, and is incorporated and made a body politic with perpetual succession. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. The Council consists of twenty members elected by the Senate for a term of five years, together with three members appointed by the Governor in Council. It elects two of its members to be Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor respectively. The Senate consists of all male persons who have graduated doctor or master in the University. It elects a Warden annually from its members. Control and management are in the hands of the Council. Council and Senate conjointly make statutes and regulations. There is no religious test for admission. By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons, the Melbourne University does not, however, compare favorably with others. The Act of 1853 provides for an endowment of £9,000 annually for maintenance and management. Additional grants have been voted annually by Parliament for maintenance, and from time to time for building purposes. Since 1853 the amount received from the Government has been £935,658—£194,558 for building and apparatus, £605,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vic. 34, and £135,600 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. By Act No. 1926 of 1904 an additional endowment of £11,000 annually is provided for a period of ten years, conditionally on the University undertaking teaching in agriculture and mining, and granting a number of free scholarships to pupils from the primary schools; also £1,000 on condition that Evening Lectures are held at the University. In addition, the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. These are charged as follows:—

The University of Melbourne.

For the degree of Bachelor of Arts, £12 12s. per annum.

For the degree of Bachelor of Science, £21 per annum.

For the degree of Bachelor of Laws, £12 12s. for each of the 1st and 2nd years; and £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.

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

Examina-
tions.

In May, 1906, the last matriculation examination was held, and the new system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was introduced in December, 1906. Under the regulations, the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous matriculation examination were reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1911:—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY, 1911.

Examination—	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Primary	194	96	49·5
Junior, Public	2,003	888	44·3
" Commercial	49	15	30·6
Senior, Public	391	201	51·4

No candidate attempted to pass fully in the Senior Commercial Examination. The percentage of passes obtained at the Junior Public Examination, 44·3, was higher than that generally gained at previous Matriculation examinations.

The number of degrees taken in 1911 was 246, 243 of which ^{Degrees.} were direct and 3 *ad eundem*, as against a total of 907 for the preceding five years, or an average of 181 per annum for that period. During those five years 879 persons obtained direct and 28 *ad eundem* degrees. Of the total number of 4,929 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 471 have been conferred on women, 465 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows:—203 Bachelor of Arts, 101 Master of Arts, 55 Bachelor of Medicine, 4 Doctor of Medicine, 53 Bachelor of Surgery, 5 Bachelor of Laws, 2 Doctor of Science, 32 Bachelor of Science, 14 Master of Science, and 2 Bachelor of Music. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1911—the years 1910 and 1911 being shown separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1910.			During 1910.			During 1911.			Total.		
	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem</i> .	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ...	951	113	1064	33	2	35	27	1	28	1011	116	1127
Master of Arts ...	50	169	699	11	2	13	21	1	22	562	172	734
Doctor of Letters ...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Bachelor of Medicine ...	823	15	838	48	...	48	58	...	58	929	15	944
Doctor of Medicine ...	140	107	247	13	...	13	14	...	14	167	107	274
Bachelor of Surgery ...	735	4	739	52	...	52	67	...	67	854	4	858
Master of Surgery ...	16	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	16
Bachelor of Laws ...	361	9	370	13	...	13	14	...	14	388	9	397
Master of Laws ...	69	3	72	3	...	3	2	...	2	74	3	77
Doctor of Laws ...	16	21	37	...	1	1	...	...	...	16	22	38
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ...	153	2	155	3	...	3	5	...	5	161	2	163
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ...	14	...	14	3	...	3	5	...	5	22	...	22
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Master of Engineering ...	74	...	74	...	...	...	1	...	1	75	...	75
Bachelor of Science ...	74	3	77	12	...	12	13	1	14	99	4	103
Master of Science ...	30	1	31	6	...	6	7	...	7	43	1	44
Doctor of Science ...	9	8	17	...	...	...	1	...	1	10	8	18
Bachelor of Music ...	6	2	8	...	...	...	1	...	1	7	2	9
Doctor of Music ...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bachelor of Dental Science ...	8	...	8	4	...	4	1	...	1	13	...	13
Bachelor of Veterinary Science ...	3	...	3	...	...	...	5	...	5	8	...	8
Doctor of Veterinary Science ...	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Bachelor of Agricultural Science ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1
Total	4017	460	4477	201	5	206	243	3	246	4461	468	4929

Students attending lectures, and undergraduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past eight years, the total in 1911 having been 1220 as compared with 615 in 1904, thus showing an advance of over 98 per cent. To some extent this is due to the inclusion of new subjects in University teaching, principally Agriculture, Metallurgy, Mining, Dentistry, and the Veterinary courses; but apart from these, the increase is very large. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 116 per cent. in the period mentioned.

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES, AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1907 TO 1911.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1907 ...	186	41	227	749	231	980
1908 ...	164	38	202	778	265	1,043
1909	179	51	230	845	276	1,121
1910 ...	214	73	287	903	334	1,237
1911 ...	239	44	283	944	276	1,220

Of the number attending lectures in 1911—1,220—367 were students in Arts and Education, 130 in Laws 66 in Engineering, 375 in Medicine, 36 in Science, 91 in Music, 67 in Dentistry, 28 in Agriculture, 29 in Veterinary Science, including a post graduate class (2), 2 in Architecture, and 1 in Public Health, and 28 were doing Science Research Work.

University finance.

In former years it was the practice to publish under the heading of University Finance the transactions relating to the General Account only, but of late years other funds have become so important that in order to prevent misleading comparisons it is thought desirable to show the receipts and expenditure in all departments of the University. This has been done in the subjoined statement :—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1911.

	General Account.			Other Accounts.			All Departments.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Receipts—									
Government Grants ..	21,166	13	4	7,023	7	1	28,190	0	5
Lecture Degree and Examination Fees ..	24,147	10	5	7,094	3	5	31,241	13	10
Other sources ..	1,504	10	5	6,114	3	0	7,618	13	5
Total ..	46,818	14	2	20,231	13	6	67,050	7	8
Expenditure ..	45,884	8	11	21,464	5	5	67,348	14	4

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

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

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

Ormond
College.

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

Queen's
College.

The Conference of the Methodist Church in Victoria, in 1878, appointed a committee to arrange for the building of a college. A request for donations met with a generous response, the first donor being Sir William McArthur, who made a gift of £1,000. The work of erecting the college was not, however, commenced until 1887. It was formally opened in March, 1888. The strenuous efforts of the Rev. W. A. Quick, in the establishment of the college, entitle him to the honour of being regarded as its founder. In 1889 large additions were made to the buildings, which now comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the master, tutors, and students. Further additions were made in 1905, and the "coming of age" of the college was celebrated in 1909 by the enlargement of the building so as to provide a larger library and common-room, with the result that the college is now capable of accommodating about 70 students in residence. Its lectures are open to non-resident, as well as resident, students. The master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

The system of local lectures and classes, known as University Extension, which has been in vogue in England for more than 40 years, and has more lately been introduced into other countries of Europe and the United States, was organized in Victoria in 1891, under a board appointed by the Melbourne University. The system aims at bringing teaching of the scope and standard of that given at the University itself within the reach of the numerous and constantly growing class of people whose position in life prevents them from attending lectures there, but who wish to devote their leisure to systematic reading and study. To these, material assistance is given by formal lectures, illustrated, where the subject requires it, by demonstrations and experiments, by informal classes and discussions, by the checking of written essays, and by examinations conducted by men of special training. By thus systematizing the knowledge of the extension students, guiding their reading, and suggesting new methods and new directions of inquiry, the higher education is imparted to them. The lectures are not of the ordinary popular kind. Their primary object is education, they seek to instruct and stimulate rather than to entertain; at the same time, they endeavour to avoid pedantry and dullness. The lectures are delivered in courses, and thus fairly wide subjects may be treated with some approach to thoroughness. The work is carried on by local committees, both in Melbourne and suburbs and in urban centres, acting in conjunction with the Central Board. This body supplies a list of suitable courses of lectures by competent and approved lecturers, and the local committee chooses the lecturer and subject. During the year 1911 courses were delivered at seven centres in Melbourne and suburbs, and one course was delivered at Bendigo.

University extension.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular" education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year. Subsequently, this Act, and two Amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889, were consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn has been amended by Act No. 1777 passed in December, 1901, Act No. 2205 passed in December, 1905, Act No. 2301 passed in December, 1910, and Act No. 2330 passed in October, 1911. Before the inception of the present method, several different systems were tried. Prior to 1848 education was left to private enterprise; but in that year a denominational system was introduced and administered by a Board, a subsidy being granted by the State. Under that system, religious as well as secular instruction was imparted by the teachers—the former being given according to the principles of the denomination to which the school was attached, the clergy of which also exercised control over the instruction imparted. On the separation of Port Phillip district from New South Wales in 1851, a Board of National Education was established in the new Colony of Victoria "for the formation and management

The educational system of Victoria.

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

In December, 1910, an Act of Parliament of a most comprehensive and far-reaching character was passed. It marks a most important epoch in the history of education in Victoria, and lays the foundation of a complete national system from the infant school to the highest educational institutions in the State. Power is given in this Act for the establishment of higher elementary schools, and of secondary and technical schools of various types, the aim being to create a co-ordinated system of public education, leading through elementary schools and evening continuation classes to trade and technical schools on the one hand, or through elementary schools and high schools to the University or to higher technical schools on the other. Provision is also made for evening continuation classes, in which the education of children who have left the day school at fourteen years of age may be continued till they are seventeen years of age. Power is given to make attendance at evening continuation classes compulsory in any district proclaimed for this purpose. Education is made compulsory in the case of deaf and dumb, blind, or physically or mentally defective children between seven and sixteen years of age.

In order to provide for the due co-ordination of all branches of public education a Council of Public Education has been created,

representative of the various educational and industrial interests of the State. This body, which consists of 20 members presided over by the Director of Education, reports annually to Parliament on the development of public education in Victoria and elsewhere.

Under the provisions of Act No. 2301, parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children (unless there is a "reasonable excuse") to attend a State school on every school half-day in each week. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the five following reasons:—(1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, reasonable fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or (3) has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or (4) is at least thirteen years of age, and has obtained a certificate of merit as prescribed, or has passed the primary examination of the University of Melbourne; or (5) that there is no State school within 1, 2, 2½, or 3 miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., nor more than 10s., for each such offence, or in default, may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days; and truant officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

Compulsory clauses.

In cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and under twelve who reside between two and a half and three miles from the nearest school, or 4d. per day for children over six and under fourteen who reside 3 miles or over from the nearest school.

Conveyance allowance.

Under Act No. 2301 Boards of Advice have been abolished and a School Committee of not more than seven persons for each school or group of schools has been substituted. The members of the School Committee shall be such persons as are nominated for the purpose by the parents of children attending the school or group of schools for which the Committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such Committees are:—(a) to exercise a general oversight over the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary; (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the Committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to buildings; (c) to promote the beautifying and improvement of school grounds, the establishment and maintenance of school gardens and agricultural plots, the decoration of the schoolroom, and the formation of a school library and museum; (d) to provide for the necessary cleansing and for the sanitary services of the school; (e) to visit the school from time to time; and (f) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school.

School Committees.

Free
subjects.

The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, drill, singing, drawing, elementary science, manual training, gymnastics, and swimming where practicable; lessons on the laws of health and on temperance; needlework, and, where practicable, cookery and domestic economy for girls. Pupils buy their own books and material.

New free
subjects.

The programme of instruction in force contains provisions to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants are also such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for their work. During the past few years, in addition to the large number of teachers who have taken the course at the Teachers' Training College and the Melbourne University, hundreds have been instructed (especially in those subjects, the method of teaching which has undergone modification recently) in special classes held in the evenings and on Saturdays at centres of population, and, on a larger scale still, during the Christmas vacations, at what are called "Summer Schools." Much attention has been given to the beautifying and improvement of school grounds by the planting of trees and shrubs, and by the establishment of school gardens. One day in each year—termed Arbor Day—is specially set apart for tree-planting, and for the giving of lessons on the value of trees. The teaching of elementary agriculture is warmly encouraged by both the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, and the subject is being dealt with in a very practical way in a large number of schools.

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

There were, on 30th June, 1911, 32 Sloyd centres in operation, having accommodation for 6,300 boys; and twenty-three cookery centres, having accommodation for about 2,900 girls. The teaching of swimming is organized where practicable, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at various centres.

Special
days.

In addition to Arbor Day, three other special days—Empire Day, Discovery Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The observance of the first promotes the growth of an intelligent patriotism, and is world-wide; but nowhere is the day more enthusiastically celebrated than in Victoria. The special lessons given on Discovery Day serve to foster the desire for fuller acquaintance with the history of Australia—a highly desirable result to secure, as Australia is the native land of almost all the children in the elementary schools of Victoria. Bird Day, which was kept for the first time in October, 1909, has for its object the protection of native birds and their eggs. On that day, lessons are given on bird life and, where possible, bird-observing excursions are made. About 50,000

of the older scholars have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which has been established under the auspices of the Australasian Ornithologists' Union for the protection of bird life.

The need for the medical inspection of school children has received widespread recognition, and the Victorian Education Department has followed the lead of progressive countries by appointing three medical inspectors. They devote their whole time to investigating the hygienic condition of school premises and the physical and mental condition of the pupils, and to giving instruction to teachers. Medical inspection.

Under the provisions of Act No. 2330 passed on 20th October, 1911, male teachers are divided into six and female teachers into five classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries for males, excluding junior teachers, range from £120 to £415, and those for females excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, from £80 to £250. Under certain conditions the fixed salaries may be supplemented by long-service increments ranging up to £20 per annum. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are four classes of junior teachers, with salaries ranging from £30 to £60. Sewing mistresses receive £40 yearly. Teachers' remuneration and classification.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June, and those relating to the number of scholars to the financial year ended 30th June, for the last ten years; the reference is to 31st December and the years ended on that date respectively for all previous returns:— State schools, teachers, and scholars, 1872 to 1911.

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1910-II.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
1872 ...	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1880 ...	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890 ...	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900 ...	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1901-2 ...	2,041	5,066	257,355	150,939	228,241
1902-3 ...	1,988	5,037	251,655	150,268	224,178
1903-4 ...	1,922	4,797	241,145	145,500	214,822
1904-5 ...	1,935	4,689	234,614	143,362	210,200
1905-6 ...	1,953	4,598	229,179	142,216	203,119
1906-7 ...	1,974	4,721	231,759	147,270	203,782
1907-8 ...	2,017	4,665	233,893	143,551	205,541
1908-9 ...	2,035	4,808	233,337	146,106	205,278
1909-10 ...	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1910-11 ...	2,053	5,087*	234,766	146,464	204,086

* In addition to these teachers, 485 were temporarily employed on 30th June, 1911.

Children's attendance at school, 1872 and 1911.

In 1872, before attendance at school was free and compulsory, each child on the average attended 58 out of every 100 days the school was open; now each child attends 71 out of every 100 school days.

Ages of State school scholars.

The following table shows the number and percentage of distinct children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year 1910-11:—

AGES OF DISTINCT CHILDREN.

Ages.	Distinct Children Attending—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	11,362	5·6	...	...	11,362	5·6
6 to 14 " ...	167,542	82·5	...	...	167,542	82·1
14 years and upwards ...	24,204	11·9	978	100·0	25,182	12·3
Total ...	203,108	100·0	978	100·0	204,086	100·0

Children of school age receiving instruction.

The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on 30th June, 1911, was 205,926, and of these 199,875 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 6,051, and if allowance be made for those being taught at home, for others who, having obtained certificates of exemption, have left school, and for those bodily or mentally afflicted, it would appear that the number of children whose education is being wholly neglected is not great.

Net enrolment in Australia and New Zealand.

The following return is a comparative statement for the year 1910, showing, for the various States of the Commonwealth and for New Zealand, the net enrolment of children in State and private schools and the percentage of such enrolment to the population. The percentage in the Commonwealth is 18.34 (14.89 per cent. in State, and 3.45 in private schools), and in New Zealand 18.21 (15.78 per cent. in State, and 2.43 in private schools). The highest enrolment in State and private schools is in Victoria, 19.72 per cent., New South Wales coming next with 18.80 per cent.

NET ENROLMENT OF SCHOLARS IN STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1910.

State.	Net Enrolment of Scholars —all Ages.			Percentage of Population.		
	State Primary Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.	State Primary Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.
Victoria	206,263	49,964	256,227	15·87	3·85	19·72
New South Wales	243,839	63,750	304,589	15·05	3·75	18·80
Queensland	89,695	13,950	103,645	15·15	2·35	17·50
South Australia	52,929	10,858	63,787	13·31	2·73	16·04
Northern Territory	68	64	132	2·00	1·88	3·88
Western Australia	32,591	8,910	41,501	12·02	3·29	15·31
Tasmania	25,294	6,422	31,716	13·14	3·34	16·48
Total Australia	650,679	150,918	801,597	14·89	3·45	18·34
Dominion of New Zealand..	156,665	24,157	180,822	15·78	2·43	18·21

The cost of primary instruction, including the expenditure on buildings, in the Commonwealth and in New Zealand for the year 1910, is set out below. The average cost per scholar in Australia is £6 10s. 9d., and in New Zealand £5 12s. The cost for 1909 was—Australia, £6 4s. 2d.; New Zealand, £5 15s. 7d.

Primary instruction, cost per scholar.

COST OF PRIMARY INSTRUCTION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1910.

State.	Scholars in Average Attendance.	State Expenditure—				Per Head of Scholars in Average Attendance.	
		On Administration and Maintenance.	On Buildings and Rent.	Total.	Per Head of Scholars in Average Attendance.		
					Including Buildings and Rent.	Excluding Buildings and Rent.	
		£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Victoria	145,968	797,343	118,556	915,899	6 5 6	5 9 3	
New South Wales	157,498	979,775	208,361	1,188,136	7 10 11	6 4 5	
Queensland	69,439	323,372	50,668	374,040	5 7 9	4 13 2	
South Australia	37,549	203,122	30,846	233,968	6 4 7	5 8 2	
Northern Territory	54	604	..	604	11 3 8	11 3 8	
Western Australia	27,442	152,457	24,263	176,720	6 8 10	5 11 1	
Tasmania	17,974	71,774	20,089	91,863	5 2 3	3 19 10	
Total Australia	455,924	2,528,447	452,783	2,981,230	6 10 9	5 10 11	
Dominion of New Zealand	135,738	623,433	136,716	760,149	5 12 0	4 11 10	

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

Private
schools,
1872 to
1910-11.

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

PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1910-II.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Individual Scholars.
1872	888	1,841	24,781
1880	643	1,516	28,134
1890	791	2,037	40,181
1900	884	2,348	48,483
1901-2	872	2,379	43,182
1902-3	798	2,369	42,695
1903-4	787	2,360	42,214
1904-5	771	2,289	43,014
1905-6	757	2,397	48,732
1906-7	751	2,313	49,803
1907-8	696	2,188	50,058
1908-9	678	2,178	49,145
1909-10	641	2,067	49,964
1910-11	587	1,975	51,495

Scholars
attending
State and
private
schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 20 per cent. of the scholars during 1910-11 attended private schools, and the balance, 80 per cent., attended State schools.

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

Registration
of teachers
and schools.

By Act No. 2013, passed in 1905, all private schools and teachers of private schools had to be registered by the Teachers' and Schools' Registration Board. This Board consisted of three representatives of the Education Department, four of non-State schools, two of the University, and one of State-aided technical schools. Its chief functions were to see (1) that only qualified persons were employed in private schools; and (2) that private schools met requirements in hygienic matters. Under the provisions of Act No. 2301, passed in December, 1910, the Teachers and Schools Registration Board was abolished and its duties were taken over by the Council of Public Education.

TRAINING COLLEGE.

College for
training
teachers.

A State College for the training of teachers is situated in the corner of the University grounds, Carlton. It provides courses for Kindergarten or Infant teachers, Primary or State teachers, and Secondary teachers. In connexion with the first two courses special certificates are issued, and in connexion with the third the University of Melbourne grants a special diploma. The course for the diploma is purely a University one, but the work in education, both theoretical and practical, is done by the Training College

principal, assisted by lecturers, the special staff of the University Practising School, and the staffs of certain schools which are proclaimed practising schools. Each of the above-named courses extends over two years, and is the recognised standard for registration under the Council of Education. Lectures and lessons are given in education, kindergarten principles, psychology, English language and literature, British history, Latin, French, mathematics, science, nature-study, music, drawing, manual training, infant school work, domestic economy, voice culture, hygiene, gymnastics, and swimming. Criticism lessons in connexion with all the courses are held weekly, and full opportunity is given to every student either at the practising or associated schools of gaining experience in the practical work of his profession. The majority of the students attending the Training College belong to the State schools. Most of these have been either classified teachers or junior teachers or ex-continuation school pupils, and they hold studentships gained by competitive examination, which entitle them to free instruction. If they reside at the college they must pay £12 per annum toward the expense of their board and residence; if they reside at home they are entitled to an allowance of £18 per annum towards board and residence. All students holding studentships receive an allowance of £12 per annum for personal expenses whether residing at home or at the college. Holders of State school exhibitions may be granted a studentship for any two years during the currency of their exhibition, but without allowance for board and residence (other than that payable to them as exhibitors). Studentships may be granted to persons who have passed the junior public examination of the Melbourne University, or an approved equivalent, who are at least eighteen years of age, and who have been classed as meritorious in the competitive examination above mentioned. Such students will be entitled to tuition in the course of instruction at the college free of expense, but without any allowance for board and residence. Every "State" student is required to enter into an agreement, by himself and an approved surety, not to relinquish his course of training without the permission of the Minister, and for four years (three years in the case of women students resigning on account of marriage) after the termination of his studentship to teach in any school to which he may be appointed. Visiting students other than above may, on payment of a fee of £10 10s. per annum to the Accountant, Education Department, be admitted to the course of instruction at the Training

College; or, on payment of a fee of £4 4s. per annum, to the course of instruction in education only. The Free Kindergarten Union of Victoria is affiliated with the Education Department, and all persons who desire to take the course for the Kindergarten Certificate must enrol their names with the secretary of the Union, after which they will be admitted to the full course of instruction at the College on payment of a fee of £10 10s. per annum. To enable those teachers who live too far from any of the centres where classes are held to take the full kindergarten course, a correspondence class has been started at the College during the past year. The fees for the Diploma of Education are payable to the University. The Training College course and certificates satisfy all the requirements of the Council of Education. All students, who before entering have matriculated, have passed four subjects of the senior public examination, and have shown some aptitude for teaching, are allowed to enter the University in their first year. Such students at the end of two years are able to gain the Trained Teacher's or Primary Certificate, and also the University Diploma of Education. Other students, who at the end of their first year have matriculated and have completed all the work of that year, are allowed to attend the University in their second year. The remaining students take all their work at the Training College. All students, whether attending the University or not, must take education, drawing, manual training, music, and gymnastics at the Training College. Successful State students receive appointments as sixth class teachers, the salary for males being from £140 to £170, and for females from £80 to £130 a year, according as they are appointed assistants or head teachers. Visiting students who are successful in passing the necessary examinations may register their names on an employment register and receive temporary appointments. If satisfactory work be done permanent sixth class positions at salaries of £120 per annum for males and £80 or £110 for females may be obtained.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

District
High
Schools.

The first district high or continuation school, as it was originally styled, was opened in Melbourne on 22nd February, 1905. The principal object of the school is to train teachers for the primary schools. Under the old pupil teacher system the teacher had to teach during the day and study at night, but under the scheme of training now in operation aspirants for the teaching profession are expected during the two years spent at a district high school to complete their preliminary literary studies and to gain an acquaintance with modern teaching methods. At the end of that time they begin their work as teachers. The qualification for entrance to a district high school is the possession of the merit certificate. Winners of Government scholarships are also trained at these schools, but parents are at liberty to select an approved secondary school for the education of their boys and girls. Besides the day classes there are formed at

district high schools evening classes for the instruction of teachers living in the vicinity, and correspondence classes for those residing at a distance. Provision is made at the agricultural high schools also for the education of holders of scholarships and for the training of junior teachers. There are district high schools at Bairnsdale, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Echuca, Geelong, Horsham, Kyneton, Maryborough, Melbourne, and Stawell, and agricultural high schools at Ballarat, Colac, Leongatha, Mansfield, Mildura, Sale, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warragul, and Warrnambool.

UNIVERSITY PRACTISING SCHOOL.

A State building in Melbourne was opened at the beginning of 1910 as a practising school for the training of teachers who are taking the course for Diploma of Education at the Melbourne University, and in that year 40 boys and 40 girls who had passed creditably through a primary course were admitted, without fee, to study for the junior public and senior public examinations. At the beginning of 1911 two extra classes were formed and additional pupils were admitted, making 126 in all. These will receive a course of secondary education extending over a period of six years. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Arts of the Melbourne University. The University also supplements the salaries paid to the members of the school staff by an annual grant.

University
practising
school.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS.

Any person may collect, raise, or give a sum of money towards founding a scholarship or exhibition in connexion with any particular State school; and money or land, or both, may be bequeathed for that purpose. By an amending regulation of 13th December, 1904, the Minister of Public Instruction may annually award 120 scholarships. Of these 80 are tenable under certain conditions for four years at a district high school or an approved secondary school. Forty of them (ordinary) are open to State school pupils only, for the purpose of facilitating their higher education in the general work of the University or the science work of the technical schools. Twenty-four out of the 40 are open to schools with an average attendance of 150 or over, while the remaining sixteen are reserved for the pupils of schools with an attendance of less than 150. Another 40 scholarships are open to pupils of State or other schools (34 to State school pupils and six to pupils of non-State schools) to enable them to obtain the secondary education necessary for them to proceed to a diploma or degree in mining or agriculture at the University. Scholarship holders must obtain at the end of each year a satisfactory report of conduct and progress. In addition to these, 40 junior teacher scholarships are allotted annually, each tenable for

Scholar-
ships.

two years and allowing tuition, free of charge, at a district high school. In the case of ordinary, and mining and agricultural scholarships, the cost of transit (not exceeding £5 per annum) may be allowed to a student who resides with his parents or guardians more than 5 miles from the school. Where it is impracticable for the student to reside with his parents or guardians, the Minister may make an allowance of £26 for board and residence, instead of the transit allowance. Scholars while attending approved secondary schools and colleges are granted an allowance of £8 per annum toward the expenses of their tuition. All holders of scholarships may be admitted free of cost as pupils in district high schools. The Minister may cancel any scholarship where the conditions are not observed, or where the scholar is guilty of disorderly or immoral conduct. Those candidates who fail to win a scholarship but who are returned as meritorious, are permitted to make such arrangements as they please with the teachers of secondary schools, and with satisfactory progress reports and examinations, they will, in due course, be eligible to attend examinations for exhibitions.

In section 24 (2) of Act No. 2301 it is provided that 200 scholarships shall be awarded annually. Such scholarships shall entitle the holder to free education at a district high school or technical school or to an allowance of not less than £12 per annum towards the payment of fees at an approved secondary school. A further allowance to cover board and lodging, travelling, books and materials, or laboratory charges may be made as prescribed by regulations.

Exhibitions

The holders of scholarships whose age does not exceed eighteen years and six months who have attended regularly at an approved secondary school or college for the preceding three years, from the authorities of which good reports have been received, and who have passed the junior public examination at the University, are eligible to compete for 40 exhibitions annually awarded by the Department. The exhibitions are allotted on competitive examination conducted by the University authorities in four of the subjects prescribed for the senior public examination of the Melbourne University. Twenty of the exhibitions are of the annual value of £40, tenable under certain conditions for three years at technical schools, or for four years, or possibly five or six years, at the Melbourne University. The other twenty exhibitions entitle their holders to free tuition at the Melbourne University in the subjects

prescribed for a degree or a diploma in mining, agriculture, or veterinary science. Such exhibitors may also receive an allowance of £26 per annum, provided that the net income of their parents or guardians does not exceed £250 per annum.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

The proportion of either sex who showed their want of elementary education, by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing, is given in the following table for each fifth year from 1875 to 1900, and for the years 1905 to 1911:—

SIGNING THE MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS, 1875 TO 1911.

Year.	Men. Per cent.	Women. Per cent.	Mean. Per cent.
1875 ..	5.48	9.43	7.46
1880 ..	4.18	4.09	4.13
1885 ..	2.56	2.62	2.59
1890 ..	1.50	1.53	1.52
1895 ..	.89	.67	.78
1900 ..	.66	.85	.76
1905 ..	.50	.38	.44
1906 ..	.43	.44	.43
1907 ..	.47	.29	.38
1908 ..	.33	.40	.36
1909 ..	.32	.29	.30
1910 ..	.29	.30	.29
1911 ..	.27	.21	.24

It will be observed that in proportion to the total numbers married, a very satisfactory increase took place during the 20 years ended with 1895 in the numbers of both sexes signing the marriage register in writing, in that every fifth year, as compared with its predecessor, showed a smaller proportion of persons signing with marks. From 1895 to 1900 this proportion remained at a somewhat uniform level, but since the latter year the improvement has been marked. It is probable, however, that the irreducible minimum has now been almost reached, for a certain residuum of the population will remain illiterate even under the compulsory system of education which prevails in Victoria. Evidence on this point is obtained from the results of the census of 1911, which show that the percentage of males aged 20 years and upwards (exclusive of full-blooded aborigines) who could not write was 1.49, and that of females aged 15 years and upwards, 1.11;

Increased numbers signing in writing.

whereas at the age groups fifteen to twenty, immediately following the school period, the percentage was .41 for males and .19 for females. The persons marrying in Victoria at all ages are thus not only far better instructed than the general population, but are quite as well educated as those who have just completed their school life.

Compared with England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, where the proportions per cent. signing with marks were 1.15, 1.31, and 5.62 respectively, the elementary educational standard is very high in this State, which, in this respect, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

Illiteracy in
England
and Wales
and
Victoria.

A very interesting table appears in the report of the English Registrar-General for 1909, showing the proportions of men and women who signed the marriage register with marks per 100 marriages celebrated during quinquennial periods from the year 1841. Similar particulars have been tabulated for Victoria, for the period commencing with the year 1853, and these are compared with the English ratios in the following table:—

PERSONS SIGNING THE MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS IN ENGLAND AND WALES AND VICTORIA.

Period.	Number of Persons in every 100 Marriages who Signed the Marriage Register with Marks.			
	Men.		Women.	
	Victoria.	England and Wales.	Victoria.	England and Wales.
1841-45 ...	*	32.6	*	48.9
1846-50 ...	*	31.4	*	46.2
1851-55 ...	12.47†	30.2	26.90†	43.5
1856-60 ...	10.99	27.1	27.85	38.1
1861-65 ...	8.62	23.6	20.59	32.9
1866-70 ...	7.92	20.5	15.39	28.3
1871-75 ...	6.16	18.5	10.28	25.2
1876-80 ...	4.49	14.8	5.68	20.0
1881-85 ...	2.78	12.3	3.22	15.5
1886-90 ...	1.68	8.4	1.72	9.8
1891-95 ...	.99	5.1	1.10	6.0
1896-1900 ...	.77	3.2	.71	3.7
1901-05 ...	.59	2.0	.46	2.4
1906 ...	.43	1.5	.44	1.9
1907 ...	.47	1.4	.29	1.7
1908 ...	.33	1.3	.40	1.5
1909 ...	.32	1.1	.29	1.3
1910 ...	.29	1.1	.30	1.2
1911 ...	.27	*	.21	*

* Not available.

† Average of the period 1853-55.

The progress of education is illustrated in a marked manner by the figures in this tabulation. During the period 1841-45 about 49 women in every 100 who married in England and Wales could not attach their names to the marriage register, but in 1910 the proportion of illiterates was only a little more than 1 in every 100 marriages. In the case of men the proportions were 33 in every 100 in the early period, and slightly over 1 in 100 in the later one. In Victoria the improvement is also very striking. During the period 1853-5 about 27 women and 12 men in every 100 marriages signed the marriage register with marks instead of affixing their names, as compared with about 1 in every 400 in 1911. These records seem to indicate that the early arrivals in Victoria from the United Kingdom were better educated than their compatriots who remained in that country.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

All the technical schools in the State, under which name Technical schools. are included the Schools of Mines, Working Men's Colleges, and Schools of Art and Design, are managed by local councils elected by subscribers. The Education Department, however, retains the general direction of technical education, and decides when schools are to be opened. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. In the schools of art and design, the subjects taught comprise practical geometry, mechanical and architectural drawing, perspective, model, and freehand drawing. The schools of mines, which have been established at the principal mining centres, provide both theoretical and practical instruction, not only in all the subjects in any way connected with mining pursuits, but also in the arts and sciences generally; whilst a wide range of subjects is taught at the working men's and other colleges. On 30th June, 1911, there were altogether nineteen technical schools receiving aid from the State. Seven of these supplied instruction in science, art, and trade subjects; two in art and science; and four in art and trade; while four schools confined their teaching to art, and one to trade. One school had not been opened, but will give instruction in science and art subjects. Six schools, viz., the Working Men's College, Melbourne, and the schools of mines at Ballarat, Bendigo, Bairnsdale, Stawell, and Maryborough, are classed as certified science schools, and are eligible to receive State school exhibitors. Science and art classes for State school children have been established at the Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Castlemaine, Daylesford, Echuca, Horsham, Kyneton, Sale, and Stawell schools; the boys and girls attending being selected from the senior pupils of the State schools. The schools as a whole had, during 1910-11, an average

enrolment of 4,311 pupils for each term; whilst the fees per term ranged in the different schools from 3s. to £8 15s. The Government expenditure on all the institutions in 1910-11 amounted to £41,144. The students paid in fees £13,631 during the year ended 31st December, 1910.

The following is a statement showing the Government expenditure on each technical school during the financial year 1910-11:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1910-11.

Name.	Amount.
	£
Bairnsdale	851
Ballarat	8,936
Beechworth .. .. .	..
Bendigo	4,361
Castlemaine	1,052
Daylesford	350
Echuca	300
Geelong	1,000
Glenferrie	2,899
Horsham	350
Kyneton	262
Maryborough	750
Melbourne	16,782
Nhill	200
Prahran	101
Sale	422
Stawell	783
Warrnambool	150
College of Domestic Economy	541
Miscellaneous	1,054
Total	41,144

MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

Melbourne
College of
Pharmacy.

The Melbourne College of Pharmacy was established in 1881 for the purpose of providing instruction in the subjects prescribed in the compulsory curriculum set out in section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890, Part III., for a person desiring to qualify as a pharmaceutical chemist in Victoria. In 1882, the old County Court, in Swanston-street, was purchased from the Government, and since then a large amount has been spent in the erection of laboratories, lecture-rooms, library, &c. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, by which it was established.

It is also recognised by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a school of pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with the provisions of section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890. The land upon which the College is erected is a reservation by the Crown for educational purposes, and is vested in the Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society.

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

Appended are the details of the work from 1st January, 1880, to 31st December, 1911:—

Number of Students who have attended the College.

Pharmaceutical students	...	...	...	699
Medical students, Melbourne University	...	...	...	972
Dental students	...	...	...	369
Extra Laboratory students	...	...	...	448
Bacteriological students	...	...	...	48
Urine Analysis students	...	...	...	14
Analytical and Applied Chemistry students	...	...	...	30
Veterinary students, Melbourne University	...	...	...	23
				2,603

Number of Candidates Examined.

Preliminary examination	2,737
Intermediate examination	1,484
Modified examination	164
Final qualifying examination	1,061
Medical students	854
Dental students	353
Bacteriological students	22
Urine Analysis	11
Analytical and Applied Chemistry	20
Veterinary students	23
	6,729

Finance.

(1880-1911.)

Revenue—		£
Grants from Government	13,460	
Fees received from students	17,017	
Aids from Pharmaceutical Society	5,964	
Total Revenue	36,441	
Expenditure—		£
Ordinary	32,957	
On Buildings	3,484	
Total Expenditure	36,441	

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

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

All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed. Students under 18 years of age, those under 21 in receipt of less wages than 25s. per week, and indentured apprentices, are admitted

Working
Men's
College,
Melbourne.

Fees.

at reduced fees to many of the evening classes. Examinations are held in July and December, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances.

Fees Payable.

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

Evening Classes.

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

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. The Magee prize is of the annual value of £3, and is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior

mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, and is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the Council at the beginning of each year. The Turri prizes, awarded for original inventions of students, consist of two prizes of £5 5s., and four prizes of £1 1s. each. The total receipts from Government, in 1911, amounted to £16,714.

Over 180 classes are held in the following departments:—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Photography, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, Household Economy, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day school students are prepared for the higher positions of industrial life, in the following complete courses:—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Marine Engineering, (4) Mining Engineering, (5) Metallurgy, and (6) Applied Chemistry. To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued.

In the evening school, the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers, geologists, electricians, municipal engineers, photographers, traction engineers, marine engineers, telephone artificers, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, signwriters and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. There are also courses for marine engineers, for naval artificers, both fitters and wood workers, and for builders and contractors. The following figures indicate the comparative amount of work done at the college during the years 1907 to 1911:—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1907 TO 1911.

—	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,453	2,441	2,423	2,610	2,538
Males over 21	436	416	434	467	477
„ under 21—Apprentices	569	594	625	720	768
„ „ Others	1,091	1,099	1,036	1,078	983
Females	357	332	328	345	310
Fees received during the year £	8,150	8,669	8,693	8,981	8,289
Average fee per student ..	66s. 5d.	71s.	71s. 9d.	68s. 10d.	65s. 5d.
Number of classes	170	173	175	181	185
„ instructors	73	73	73	83	95
Salaries paid instructors £	9,228	10,673	11,545	11,947	12,236

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £290,631. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance, amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,365,054 at the end of 1911. At that date the Reference Library contained 207,261 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year 1911 by about 380,000 persons. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. The librarian reports that 4,345 volumes were purchased, 2,032 volumes presented, 322 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 44,864 newspapers added to the Reference Library during the year. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 158,871 volumes during 1911, and the number of persons to whom the books were lent was 9,126. Of these volumes 43.9 per cent. related to fiction, 18.6 to history, 9.4 to general literature, 14.2 to religion, philosophy, natural science and art, 9.3 to arts and trades, and 4.1 per cent. to social science. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1911 was 28,835, of which 1,649 were added during the year.

Public
Library of
Victoria.

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

National
Gallery.

The National Gallery at the end of 1911 contained 18,041 works of art, viz., 538 oil paintings, 3,583 objects of statuary, &c., and 13,920 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended in the year by 12 male and 17 female students, and the school of design by 51 male and 59 female students. The students are encouraged to paint original works, by which means it is hoped the foundation will be laid of a school of art dealing with purely Australian subjects. Every three years a Travelling Scholarship is open for competition amongst the students of painting. Its money value is £150 per annum, and it is awarded with the object of enabling promising students to travel and complete their art studies in England and on the Continent. The Trustees also award a prize of £20 for the best painting from life shown at the annual exhibition of students' work, and numerous other prizes for distinction in the different branches of the drawing and painting schools.

Industrial
Museum.

The Industrial and Technological Museum adjoins the National Gallery, and was opened on 7th September, 1870. At the end of 1911, it contained 55,155 specimens. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

National
Museum.

The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Thursdays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 1911 the expenditure for specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £500. The payments for salaries and wages during the year amounted to £2,487.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

Patent
Office
Library.

The free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, Railway Offices, Flinders-street, Melbourne, contains over 10,000 volumes, including the Patents Acts, Rules, and official Gazettes of the principal countries of the world, and the printed specifications of Great Britain, France, Germany, Norway, Denmark, and Japan. The value of the books donated by these countries

is very great, and additions of several hundred volumes are made annually. The library also contains the principal journals of mechanical science and numerous encyclopædias and scientific textbooks, to which frequent additions are made by purchase. A class catalogue, founded on the Dewey system, of publications contained in the library has been printed, and as the library deals mainly with the history of science and manufactures, all books are arranged in chronological order. In October, 1906, the printing of the Commonwealth Patent Specifications was commenced; all the specifications accepted subsequent to October, 1905, have now been printed, and weekly additions are made about two weeks after acceptances are notified in the *Australian Official Journal of Patents*. At the end of 1911 2,750 of the back numbers, ranging from 1 to 4,000, had been completed, and the publication of the remainder of the 4,000, open to inspection, will shortly be accomplished. The specifications are arranged in two separate files for free public perusal, one classified chronologically and numerically, the other according to the subjects of the inventions. Complete sets are sent weekly to the branch patent offices in the State capitals, and to other public libraries in various foreign States and countries. A revised edition of the numerical subject list of inventions arranged thematically in groups and classes, with definitions or limitations of their scope, and directions for searching in related classes, has been published for the convenience of the public. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

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

Supreme
Court
Library.

FREE LIBRARIES.

Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1911 being £7,624. Of these libraries 524 furnished returns in 1911, which show that they possessed 841,776 volumes, and received £60,045 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £54,971—£10,828 on books, &c., and £44,143 on maintenance—and that 2,809,340 visits were paid to the 475 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors. As to the class of literature in general use, it appears, from particulars received from a number of the institutions, that works of fiction are in much greater demand than any other class. Next come general literature, history, and travel, in that order.

Free
libraries.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition
Buildings,
Aquarium,
and
Museum.

The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure was £132,951, of the temporary annexes, £83,111; gardens, £18,481; machinery, £5,715; and organ, £5,560; there was also miscellaneous expenditure, £547—making a total of £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On this occasion, a further sum of £125,178 was expended upon the re-erection of the annexes; £30,986 upon additions to and alterations and decorations of the permanent building; £4,854 upon the gardens; £16,471 upon machinery; £77,128 upon electric lighting; and £8,337 upon gas and gas fittings—making a total of £262,954. At the close of the exhibition, there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904. The property again reverted to the trustees, in whose report for the year 1911 it is stated that all the buildings are in good and substantial condition, the gardens well maintained, and the aquarium and insectarium museums extremely useful, both from educational and scientific points of view. An efficient and up-to-date fire service has been provided in the buildings. The new system of arc lighting has proved very successful, and lessens the cost to the tenants. The receipts for the year amounted to £4,603, consisting of rents, £2,243, and aquarium and other receipts, £2,360. The expenditure totalled £4,149, viz., £1,699 for expenses of the aquarium; and £2,450 for maintenance and improvement of the building and gardens, insurance, and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust amount to £1,670.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic
Garden.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, and is at a distance of about a mile and a half from the city. The area of the garden proper, including lawns, groups, &c., is 88 acres, whilst that of the lake, including the added elbow, or bend of the River Yarra, amounts to 12 acres in addition. This now historic garden, together with the Government House grounds (62 acres), and the Domain (150 acres), extends over a total area of 312 acres. The facts as to the commencement and progress of the establishment, compiled from the most reliable sources, are to be found in the profusely illustrated edition of the "Descriptive

Guide to the Botanic Gardens," published by the Government Printer in 1908, at a price of 1s., from which the accompanying quotation has been taken:—

"The first site chosen for a Botanic Garden was an area of 50 acres, near to where the Spencer-street railway station is situated, and was selected by Mr. Hoddle, Surveyor-General, in 1842. Afterwards various other localities were proposed, but finally, owing mainly to the discrimination and taste of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, first Government Superintendent (afterwards Lieutenant-Governor) of the province of Port Phillip, a portion of the present site was decided upon for the purpose. In September, 1845, Dr. Nicholson presented a petition, signed by three or four hundred of the citizens, headed by the Mayor, praying for the immediate establishment of the Botanic Garden, and the sum of £750 was thereupon voted—1845-6—for its maintenance. The first superintendent, or curator (Mr. John Arthur), was appointed 1st March, 1846, and he at once fenced in a 5-acre paddock, that portion of the gardens at present known as the Anderson-street Lawn, sloping towards the tea-house on the edge of Lake, in which he made good progress both as to cultivation and planting. Mr. Arthur, however, whose labours were much appreciated at the time, died in January, 1849. Mr. John Dallachy succeeded Mr. Arthur as curator, and insured such good results that, at the end of 1851, a progress report submitted to the Legislature showed that, in addition to an extension of cultivated ground, many kinds of exotic plants had been added to the collection, and also that the native vegetation had received attention. The various shows of the Horticultural Society were at that time held in the gardens. For several years prior to the retirement of Mr. Dallachy, a scientific arrangement of plants in a part of the gardens was undertaken by the then Government Botanist, Dr. Ferdinand Mueller (subsequently Baron Sir F. von Mueller), who had accompanied the Gregory Expedition in search of Leichhardt, the explorer. After the Baron had received the appointment as Director (1857), Mr. Dallachy was re-employed for several years as a collector of seeds and herbarium specimens for the gardens, and discovered many new and beautiful species in Queensland. The Baron held office as Director until 1873, when, with the view of enabling him to give undivided attention to his scientific labours as Government Botanist, he was relieved of control of the Botanic Gardens, and Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle was appointed to the position. The gardens were entirely remodelled by him and their area extended by more than 40 acres."

Mr. Guilfoyle retired from the Directorship on 1st December, 1909, and Mr. J. Cronin was subsequently appointed to the position of Curator. The present features of the garden are its extensive undulating lawn areas and broad sweeping paths with varied groupings and marginal beds of ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, and useful plants. Large specimens of Australian and exotic trees and other vegetation are effectively disposed about the grounds. At suitable spots, rockeries and mounds have been formed and planted. Along the western and southern boundary fence an interesting plantation of Australian vegetation has been made, which contains many hundreds of representative trees and shrubs of the continent.

A large conservatory which is situated on the eastern side of the grounds contains a numerous and varied collection of tropical plants, including many rare orchids, ferns, palms, and other handsome foliaged and flowering species. The conservatory is open daily, Sundays excepted, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

When Mr. Guilfoyle took charge of the garden, in 1873, about 2,500 species of plants were growing there, and these, having been constantly added to, the garden now contains no less than 14,000 species and varieties of species. Many of the most valuable additions are large palms in great variety, and arborescent and other ferns, such as are found in and around the rather extensive fern-gully in the centre of the gardens. This gully has a thousand feet of winding pathway running through its area. Many hundreds of rare ornamental and utilitarian plants, and a large collection of medicinal herbs, have been added of late years.

An extensive "System Pavilion" situated in the south-western part of the gardens. The plants, all in large pots, are classified in their natural orders, and, like the various collections in the outer grounds, conservatory, &c., have labels attached—giving both their scientific and common names, their orders, native countries, &c.

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

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

The tea houses, including a "Pavilion," "Kiosk," and "Chalêt," which occupy the site on the south side of the lake where the propagating houses and nurseries were formerly located (since removed to the west side of the grounds), are well maintained, and are largely patronized by visitors, for whose benefit these refreshment rooms were provided.

The grounds are almost encircled by a much-used carriage way, which, having been inter-connected, comprises the Alexandra Avenue and the South Yarra Drive, and now makes one wide promenade of

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

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

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

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

The Melbourne Botanic Garden has now had an existence of nearly 70 years, and as a favorite resort has become increasingly popular, being attended by many thousands of people on Sundays and holidays, and week days, whilst being much used by citizens and visitors from the various States, Colonies, &c., Great Britain, and other countries.

The gardens of the Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, nearly 2 miles distant from the Post Office, and can be reached by the tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by rail. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks. The Government Fish Hatchery has been established in the gardens and some trout-rearing ponds formed. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the State Governor, and the director is Mr. D. Le Souëf, C.M.Z.S., &c.

Royal
Zoological
and Acclimatisation
Gardens.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

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

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

The years of depression following the crash of the land boom had their full effect on the society, many of the most liberal donors to its funds being compelled to relinquish the financial support they had in previous years generously accorded the committee. In 1891, the Government of the day undertook the establishment of a School of Horticulture, and the balance due to debenture-holders on the handsome show pavilion erected in the gardens having been paid by the Government, the estate was handed over to the management of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Neilson continuing as curator under the direction of a Board of Horticultural Advice to whose *personnel* the Government appointed three, and the society three, with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman. This arrangement worked with the utmost satisfaction until the death of the curator. Some years after that event, the Minister made a new departure by dissolving the board and placing the School of Horticulture under the sole control of the Department.

Conferences on special matters are held from time to time under the society's auspices, at which delegates from the provinces and other States attend, the Daffodil Conference being now an annual fixture.

The members' monthly meeting is held at the Thistle Rooms, 298 Little Flinders-street, at which competitive displays of flowers, &c., are made, and lectures delivered on horticultural matters by leading experts.

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

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

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, four vice-presidents (two amateur and two professional), an honorary treasurer, and twenty members (ten amateurs and ten professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. C. C. Burton, at the office, 19 Queen-street, Melbourne.

There are 37 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres. The Government provided £295 in aid of these associations during the year ended 30th June, 1911.

Other Societies.

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC RESERVES.

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes having been 5,574½ acres in 1911. The following list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, has been supplied by the Lands Department:—

Public reserves Greater Melbourne.

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1911.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Melbourne City ...	Royal Park	425
" ...	Yarra "	155
" ...	Prince's "	97
" ...	Fawkner "	102
" ...	Flinders "	17
" ...	Alexandra Park	46
" ...	Park (Model Farm)	28
" ...	Botanic Garden and Domain	181
" ...	Queen Victoria Memorial Statue and Garden	8½
" ...	Zoological Gardens	55
" ...	Carlton "	63
" ...	Fitzroy "	64

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1911—continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
St. Kilda City	Recreation	11
"	" (Beach Reserves)	62½
"	" Dandenong Road	22½
"	" (Elwood)	10
"	Cemetery	20
Brighton Town	Elsternwick Park	90½
"	Beach Park	67
Essendon City	Recreation	10½
"	"	5½
"	Agricultural Society's Yards	30
"	Queen's Park	22
"	Park and Recreation Reserve	3½
"	Water Reserve	11½
Hawthorn City	Recreation	15
"	" (Grace Park)	8
Kew Town	Studley Park	203
"	Lunatic Asylum	384
"	Cemetery	31
"	Recreation	16
Footscray City	Public Gardens and Recreation	10½
"	"	2½
"	Cricket Ground, &c.	5½
"	Park and Recreation	38
"	Recreation (Yarraville)	5
"	" (Footscray West)	15
"	"	11
Williamstown Town	Park (Newport)	25
"	"	2
"	"	10
"	Recreation	9½
"	Beach Park	20
"	Cemetery	28
"	Rifle Range	332
"	Cricket Ground	6½
"	Public Garden	3½
"	Recreation (Newport)	13½
"	" (Spotswood)	5
Malvern City	Park and Garden	8
"	Recreation	4½
"	Park and Garden (Waverley-road)	16
Caulfield Town	Race-course	144
"	Park	62
"	Park (East Caulfield)	17
"	Recreation	13
"	Brighton Cemetery	29
Oakleigh Borough	Recreation	8
"	Park and Garden	21
"	Park and Recreation	5
"	Cemetery	10
Camberwell Town	Gardens	7
"	Norwood Recreation Reserve	4
Coburg Borough	Recreation	5
Outside urban municipalities	Yarra Bend Asylum	350
	Williamstown Race-course	190
	Heidelberg Park and Recreation Reserve	26
	Total	5,574½

Public
reserves in
country
towns.

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

NUMBER AND AREA OF PARKS AND GARDENS IN COUNTRY TOWNS
IN VICTORIA, 1911.

Town.	Number of Reserves.	Area. Acres.
Ararat	4	36½
Bairnsdale	3	150
Ballarat	7	977
Ballarat East	13	188½
Beechworth	6	68½
Benalla	1	22
Bendigo	11	171
Buninyong	4	114
Burrumbeet	1	100
Castlemaine	3	109
Clunes ...	6	150
Colac ...	3	78
Creswick	3	54½
Daylesford	5	330
Dromana	3	274½
Dunolly	5	312
Eaglehawk	4	42½
Echuca	4	336
Flinders	1	25
Geelong	5	261
Hamilton	5	61
Horsham	3	142½
Koroit	1	13
Kyneton	1	14
Korumburra	2	31½
Learmonth	4	76
Majorca	2	185
Maldon	4	156
Maryborough	3	142
Mortlake	2	65
Portland	5	103
Port Fairy	1	26
Queenscliff	2	48
Sale	1	40
Sebastopol	1	36
Shepparton	4	123½
St. Arnaud	2	68
Stawell	3	71½
Wangaratta	5	157
Warrnambool	10	450

Ministers
and
Churches.

At the end of 1911, there were in the State 2,904 regular churches and chapels, and 1,983 other buildings, where religious services were held—a total of 4,887 places of public worship—and these were

attended by 1,925 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars of the different denominations:—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1911.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ...	369	653	629	1,282
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ...	260	516	516	1,032
Free Presbyterian ...	2	8	4	12
Methodist ...	242	817	501	1,318
Independent or Congregational ...	60	77	18	95
Baptist ...	76	96	59	155
Salvation Army ...	544	99	49	148
Other Protestant ...	78	134	72	206
Roman Catholic Church ...	272	485	129	614
New Church (or Swedenborgian) ...	1	1	...	1
Catholic Apostolic Church ...	2	1	...	1
Spiritualists ...	5	6	...	6
Church for Deaf Mutes ...	1	1	...	1
Church of God ...	1	...	1	1
Greek Orthodox Church ...	1	1	...	1
Jews ...	5	6	3	9
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints ...	6	3	2	5
Total ...	1,925	2,904	1,983	4,887

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 3,004; the teachers 22,258; and the number of scholars on the rolls, 208,509—88,671 males and 119,838 females. Sunday Schools.

Religions of
the people.

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1911 :—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1911.

Religion.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Per cent. of Population.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England (including Protestant so stated) ..	238,077	236,226	475,203	37·02
Presbyterian	116,653	117,900	234,553	18·27
Methodist	84,376	92,286	176,662	13·76
Independent or Congregational	7,624	8,860	16,484	1·28
Baptist	14,134	17,110	31,244	2·43
Lutheran	7,025	4,657	11,682	·91
Salvation Army	3,409	4,390	7,799	·61
Unitarian	314	193	512	·04
Church of Christ	7,356	9,155	16,511	1·29
Seventh Day Adventists	551	892	1,443	·11
Other Protestant Churches	3,811	4,243	8,054	·63
Total	484,230	495,917	980,147	76·35
Roman Catholic Church	139,174	147,259	286,433	22·31
Other Denominations—				
Greek Orthodox Church	385	88	473	·04
Jews	3,214	3,056	6,270	·49
Other Religions	3,081	669	3,750	·29
Sceptics, &c.	4,780	1,907	6,687	·52
Total specified	634,864	648,896	1,283,760	100·00
Unspecified	20,727	11,064	31,791	..
Grand Total	655,591	659,960	1,315,551	..

Religions
per cent. of
population
1861 to
1911.

The accompanying table shows the principal religions of the people per 100 of the population in the last six census years :—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE PER 100 OF THE POPULATION, 1861 TO 1911.

Religion.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.
Protestant Churches—						
Church of England (including Protestant so stated) ..	40·60	36·01	36·74	37·33	36·52	37·02
Presbyterian	16·67	15·78	15·65	14·94	16·16	18·27
Methodist	8·90	13·16	13·58	14·14	15·21	13·76
Independent or Congregational	2·45	2·54	2·35	1·98	1·45	1·28
Baptist	1·72	2·28	2·40	2·50	2·75	2·43
Lutheran	1·92	1·47	1·32	1·39	1·18	·91
Salvation Army .. .. .	..	..	..	1·21	·74	·61
Church of Christ	*	·50	·57	·74	·90	1·29
Other Protestant Churches	·59	·51	·37	·66	1·45	·78
Total Protestant Churches	72·85	72·25	72·98	74·89	76·36	76·35
Roman Catholic Church	21·02	23·83	24·02	22·24	22·26	22·31
Jews	·56	·50	·51	·58	·50	·49
Others	5·57	3·42	2·49	2·29	·88	·65
Total specified	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

* Included with "Other Protestant Churches."

The total number of Protestants of all denominations in 1911 was 980,147, as against 904,934 in 1901. In 1911 the Roman Catholics numbered 286,433, and in 1901, 263,710. The rate of increase of each of these bodies, in the ten years was, therefore, about the same as that of the population. Protestants and Roman Catholics.

The members of the Church of England and the Presbyterians had improved their positions relatively to the total population between 1901 and 1911, but the Independents had decreased from 17,141 to 16,484, and the adherents of the Salvation Army from 8,830 to 7,799. Protestant Sects.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Friendly societies have existed in Victoria for over 70 years, at least two branches having been established in the year 1840. They are regulated by their own rules which are registered under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1890, and amendments thereof in the Acts of 1891, 1900, 1905, 1907, and 1911. These Acts, amongst other provisions, prescribe that each society shall furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once at least in every five years shall cause its assets and liabilities to be valued by or to the satisfaction of that officer. The fees for valuation have purposely been fixed at a low rate, and average no more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers should they desire it, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and all the valuations are now made by the Government Statist.

The statistics in regard to the societies were very incomplete prior to 1878, but much fuller information was obtainable after that year in consequence of the passing of the *Friendly Societies Act* 1877. This Act contained provisions for registration of societies, but did not make registration compulsory. It was provided that an actuary should certify to the rates of contribution payable by members before registration could take place. All of the larger societies found it to their advantage to register under the Act. Registration, &c., of friendly societies.

While the 1877 Act contained provisions for registration it was not until 1907 that registration was made compulsory. In that year an Act was passed which provided that all societies must register, and that all registered societies must adopt rates of contribution adequate to provide the benefits to be received. These rates had to be adopted in respect of all members, and not merely new members. The penalty for failure to comply with the provisions in regard to adequate rates was cancellation of registration. Under this Act societies were given eighteen months within which to adopt such rates, *i.e.*, until 3rd June, 1909. There was, however, no provision for those cases where it might be found after the date mentioned that the rates were insufficient. To remedy this defect an amending Act was passed in the year 1911. This Act provides that if a society receives two successive notifications from the Government Statist that

its rates are inadequate, it must adopt adequate rates within twelve months of the second notification, otherwise its registration will be cancelled. There must be an interval of at least three years between the two notifications. It is expected that a society on receiving the first notification will take such steps to improve its position as will obviate the necessity for the second being issued.

Registered societies must not contract to pay more than 40s. per week in sickness, and the practice now obtaining in Victoria is to pay a maximum of only 20s. per week. Central bodies are empowered by statute to appoint auditors to audit and inspect the accounts and securities of branches at such time as the central body may direct. The *Friendly Societies Act* 1907 provides that every trustee, treasurer, secretary, chairman or member of the committee of management who takes any money or valuable thing in consideration of any benefit received or to be received by any member of an unregistered society shall be liable to a penalty of £50. Trade unions are exempted from registration. The investment of funds on leasehold property is now illegal, but the power to invest generally is extended to all trustee securities. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. An Act passed in 1910 created a new stock for the special benefit of friendly societies. Interest is payable at 4 per cent., and investment is optional, but the societies are taking advantage of it to an increasing extent. Prior to the year 1907, it was not lawful for a friendly societies' dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this restriction has been amended so that all benefit members who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary, and the full amount payable to the society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

A review of the experience of the societies during recent years shows that they are making good progress, and are steadily gaining in financial strength. Until within the last few years the position of many of them was very unsatisfactory chiefly owing to the inadequacy of the rates payable by a large section of the members. The accumulation of deficiencies from this cause has received a check, as the Act of 1907 made the payment of adequate rates by all members compulsory. Some of the societies had voluntarily adopted such rates before they were required to do so, and the advantage of their action is now apparent.

The societies perform a function which cannot be carried out with the same success by other means—that of providing for the loss which would otherwise be sustained by the wage-earners of the community and those dependent on them through illness or death. Their organization enables them to keep in touch with their members, to guard against malingering, and to perform satisfactorily a work which, on account of its peculiar nature, could not be attended to satisfactorily by institutions organized on the lines of the ordinary insurance company. Their main objects are to afford relief in sickness, and to provide a sufficient sum to cover funeral expenses on the death of a member or his wife. The usual benefits payable on sickness are 20s. weekly during the first six months, 10s. during the second six months, and 5s. thereafter during life. The member has also the benefit of medical attendance and medicine for himself and his near relatives. A sum of £20 is usually payable on the death of the member, and of £10 on the death of his wife should she predecease him. The benefits coming under the heading of medical attendance and medicine, extend usually to the whole family, embracing in the general case, member, wife, and children under eighteen years of age, widowed mother of unmarried member, and also widow and family after the death of member if fees continue to be paid.

Benefits of friendly societies.

The funds of the societies are divided into two portions—the sick and funeral fund, out of which are payable the sickness and death benefits, and the medical and management funds, from which are taken the payments for medical attendance, medicines, and management expenses. The weekly contribution to the sick and funeral fund varies with the age at entry, and for the benefits above mentioned usually ranges from 6d. to 1s. per week. The contribution to the other fund generally remains uniform throughout life, the usual charge being from 6d. to 8d. per week. The total sum payable by each member thus ranges from about 1s. to 1s. 8d. per week. There are in addition small initiation fees, and, in some instances, registration fees for second wives.

The growth of Victorian friendly societies in recent years is worthy of note. The total membership increased from 94,618, in 1899, to 148,603 at the close of 1911—an increase during the twelve years of 53,985 members; 6,292 members were added in 1909, 5,935 in 1910, and 6,328 in 1911. The funds increased during the twelve-year period from £1,258,699 to £2,246,396—an addition of £987,697. These are well invested, the return from the sick and funeral fund averaging slightly more than 4 per cent. for the year 1911. Female societies have been established in recent years, and at the end of 1911 these had a membership of 11,056, and funds amounting to £32,321.

Progress of friendly societies.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the years 1907-1911:—

Year.			Membership.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
				£	£	£
1907	...	..	123,443	452,323	367,483	1,793,186
1908	...	...	130,048	481,197	386,492	1,887,891
1909	...	...	136,340	523,871	399,345	2,012,417
1910	...	...	142,275	534,616	424,431	2,122,602
1911	...	...	148,603	559,585	435,791	2,246,396

The following is a more detailed statement in regard to the societies for the five years, 1907 to 1911:—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1907 TO 1911.
(Including Female Societies.)

	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.
Number of societies ...	27	42	48	48	48
Number of branches ...	1,376	1,422	1,441	1,475	1,498
Average number of members	120,002	126,746	133,194	139,308	145,439
Number of members sick	24,456	24,099	24,158	27,740	27,695
Weeks for which alimnt was allowed	190,702	197,618	199,150	214,026	214,310
Deaths of members ...	1,068	1,171	1,198	1,194	1,221
Deaths of registered wives	431	414	436	437	468
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund	246,045	263,151	298,829	288,257	308,020
Income of incidental fund	202,116	210,555	216,738	224,943	230,788
Other Income ...	4,162	7,491	8,304	21,416	20,777
Total Income ...	452,323	481,197	523,871	534,616	559,585
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund	165,426	173,898	180,252	186,065	193,060
Expenditure of incidental fund	198,113	206,582	212,266	220,542	224,983
Other Expenditure ...	3,944	6,012	6,827	17,824	17,748
Total Expenditure...	367,483	386,492	399,345	424,431	435,791
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund	1,668,546	1,757,799	1,876,376	1,978,568	2,093,528
Amount to credit of incidental fund	64,279	68,252	72,724	77,125	82,930
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund	1,608,510	1,700,283	1,804,720	1,888,750	2,002,210
Amount invested—incidental fund	50,678	55,112	59,535	66,348	69,394
Amount invested—other funds	56,500	56,786	57,307	62,714	62,571
Total invested ...	1,715,688	1,812,181	1,921,562	2,017,812	2,134,175
„ funds ...	1,793,186	1,887,891	2,012,417	2,122,602	2,246,396

NOTE.—Returns relating to the year 1911 were received for the first time from juvenile branches, but the information regarding these branches was not considered of sufficient importance to be included in the above table.

In proportion to the number of effective male members of the societies, the amount of sickness experienced in 1911 by males was slightly less than that of recent years. The days per effective member for which alimnt was allowed were equal to an average of 11.0 in each of the five years 1907-1911, which was little different from the average for the 24 years ended 1906, viz., 11.2. The death rate in 1911 was slightly below the average—the rate per 1,000 members being 8.89 in 1911, 9.07 in 1910, 9.56 in 1909, 9.76 in 1908, 9.18 in 1907, and 10.19 for the 34 years ended 1911. The female societies experienced a smaller amount of sickness than the male branches—the days per effective member for which alimnt was allowed averaging only 7.6 yearly during the five years ended 1911. The death rate, too, was considerably lower, being 4.05 per 1,000 members in 1911, and not exceeding 4.29 per 1,000 members in any of the years of the quinquennium. The more favorable experience among females is due to the fact that the average age of the members of female branches is considerably below that of male members.

Societies lost over 7 per cent. of their members in 1911 through secession. The vast majority of secessions take place during the first few years before members have learnt to appreciate the value of their connexion with the societies. In this respect the experience is similar to that which prevails in life assurance companies. Expenses of management absorbed about 17 per cent. of the contributions to all funds during 1910. This ratio is very similar to that prevailing in well-managed life assurance companies, and is considerably below the rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the lodge element is an essential feature of friendly societies, and that a considerable outlay is unavoidable in connexion with the lodges, it would appear that the rate of expense is very moderate.

An investigation into the sickness and mortality experience of three of the largest Victorian friendly societies for the period 1903-07 has recently been made. This relates to male lives only. The number of years of life included in the experience was 262,038, the number of weeks' sickness experienced was 442,829, and the deaths numbered 2,451.

In the following table the sickness rate (*i.e.* the average number of weeks of sickness experienced each year by each member), according to the Victorian Friendly Societies' experience 1903-07, is compared with the corresponding rates obtained from the New South

Sickness
and death
rates.

Secessions.

Sickness
and
Mortality
Experience
1903-7.

Wales experience 1900-08, the South Australian experience 1895-1904, and the Manchester Unity (England) experience 1893-97 :—

AVERAGE NUMBER OF WEEKS' SICKNESS EXPERIENCED EACH YEAR.

Age.	Victorian. Friendly Societies' Experience, 1903-07.	New South Wales Friendly Societies' Experience, 1900-08.	South Australian Friendly Societies' Experience, 1895-1904.	Manchester Unity, England, 1893-7.
18 ..	·909	·839	·740	·952
23 ..	·860	·761	·772	·900
28 ..	·845	·738	·814	·968
33 ..	·885	·751	·819	1·095
38 ..	·988	·835	·925	1·320
43 ..	1·204	1·020	1·080	1·649
48 ..	1·456	1·306	1·397	2·096
53 ..	2·096	1·831	1·971	2·955
58 ..	3·824	2·912	3·043	4·357
63 ..	6·558	4·623	5·012	7·072

The Victorian rates are considerably below those of the Manchester Unity (England), but they are higher than the rates according to the South Australian and New South Wales experiences. It should be noted that the New South Wales rates which appear in the comparative statement relate to non-mining lodges only.

A relatively high sickness rate at the earliest age in the table is a feature of the latest experiences both in Australia and England. Various suggestions have been made as to the reason of this, but there is at present not sufficient evidence to permit of a definite conclusion being arrived at. It may be that the high sickness rate represents the effect of modern conditions of labour on the human organism before it is fully developed. Another explanation is, that to youths in receipt of low wages without family responsibilities, the relatively high rates of sick pay prove attractive, and that in consequence efforts are often made to obtain benefits for minor ailments, and to unduly prolong the period of sickness, as the rules will allow.

It would be of interest to know what rates of sickness are experienced by persons following hazardous occupations. It was not possible, however, to ascertain this from the data available, as in many instances the nature of the occupation was not given. Even if there had been no defects of this nature, the frequent changes of occupation which occur in Victoria would have made an investigation into the sickness and mortality rates prevailing among persons engaged in different occupations of little value as an index of what might be expected to occur in the future.

Investigations which have been made elsewhere have shown that miners are subject to a much higher rate of sickness than that existing in the general community. In the Victorian experience, the miners could not be separated from the other members, but there are certain

lodges which are known to include in their membership a large number of persons connected with the mining industry. These were treated as mining lodges, and a separate enquiry was made into the sickness and mortality rates prevailing in the remaining or non-mining lodges.

In the following statement the rates of sickness experienced in the mining and non-mining lodges are compared :—

SICKNESS EXPERIENCE IN MINING AND NON-MINING LODGES.

	Weeks of Sickness.	
	Total.	Annual Rate per Member.
Non-mining experience	356,821	1·730
Mining experience	86,008	2·490
All members	442,829	1·832

The rate for mining exceeds that for non-mining lodges by .760 weeks, *i.e.*, each member in the former group of lodges is sick, on the average, for $4\frac{1}{2}$ days more than members in the other group. When it is known that the number of miners in mining lodges is probably less than 40 per cent. of the total membership, it will be seen that the rate of sickness experienced by them is greatly in excess of that prevailing among other sections of the community.

The mortality rates of Victorian Friendly Society members have been shown by the investigation to be, at most ages, much lower than those prevailing in the general community. This favorable feature is specially noticeable at the younger and middle ages. In the following table, the mortality rate, as deduced from the Victorian Friendly Societies' experience, is compared with that obtained from other experiences :—

MORTALITY RATES IN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES IN AUSTRALIA AND ENGLAND (PER 100 MEMBERS AT EACH AGE).

Age.	Victorian Friendly Societies, 1903-07.	New South Wales Friendly Societies, 1900-08.	South Australian Friendly Societies, 1895-1904.	Manchester, Unity, England, 1893-7.
18 ..	·265	·288	·431	·258
23 ..	·343	·303	·385	·390
28 ..	·372	·324	·481	·472
33 ..	·410	·424	·558	·574
38 ..	·521	·529	·616	·743
43 ..	·673	·678	·774	·980
48 ..	1·014	·901	·987	1·266
53 ..	1·439	1·373	1·378	1·829
58 ..	2·485	2·184	2·125	2·591
63 ..	3·649	3·146	2·901	3·950

The foregoing rates relate to persons engaged in both healthy and unhealthy occupations. It will be seen that the Victorian rates differ slightly from those of New South Wales, and are lower than those of South Australia up to age 48, also that, except at age 18, they are below the rates of the Manchester Unity experience (England).

FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

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

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

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

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

The Metropolitan Saturday Half-holiday Act, No. 2177, which came into force on 1st May, 1909, provides for the closing of all shops (other than Fourth Schedule Shops or shops mentioned in the First Schedule to Act No. 2177, viz. :—Flower shops, bicycle shops, hair-dressers, butchers and bakers) from 1 p.m. on Saturday in each week; also that shops which are closed from 1 p.m. on Saturday may be kept open until 10 p.m. on the preceding Friday. On receipt of petitions signed by a majority of the shopkeepers in the Metropolitan District to be affected regulations may be made for closing the shops mentioned in the First Schedule to the above Act from 1 p.m. on Saturday and permitting same (with the exception of butchers' shops, for which the hour is 8 p.m. on Friday) to be kept open until 10 p.m. on Friday. Until such a Regulation is made these shops must close at 1 p.m. on either Wednesday or Saturday. In the cases of butchers' and bicycle shops Regulations have been made for closing at 1 p.m. on Saturday throughout the Metropolitan District.

Shortly stated, the hours for closing bakers' shops are fixed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 1 p.m. on Wednesday or Saturday, whichever the shopkeeper may prefer. If Wednesday be chosen for the half-holiday, the hour for closing on Saturday is 10 p.m., and if Saturday be chosen the hour for closing on Wednesday is 6 p.m. The closing hour on Friday is 6 p.m. or 10 p.m., according as Wednesday or Saturday is chosen for the half-holiday. Flower shops and hairdressers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m.; and on Wednesday or Saturday at 1 p.m. If the shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m., and may be kept open until 10 p.m. on Friday; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it may be kept open till 11 p.m. on Saturday. Bicycle shops are now required to close at 8 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 10 p.m. on Friday, and at 1 p.m. on Saturday. Butchers' shops are required to close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 8 p.m. on Friday, and at 1 p.m. on Saturday.

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

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

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

The hours for closing such shops are not fixed by the Act, but under a Regulation chemists' shops have to be closed at 10 p.m. on Friday, and 8 p.m. on other week days.

In the country municipalities a marked advance has been made during the year in the number of places which have adopted the Saturday half-holiday.

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

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

Re factories.

A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale. The expression handicraft includes any work done in a laundry or in dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories, and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to insure that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. A record is to be kept in every factory of the names, work, and wages of all employés, and the ages of those under 21. The employment of males under 14 and females under 15 years of age is debarred, but a provision is made by which a girl of 14 can receive permission to work in a factory if it be shown that the parents are poor, and that the best interests of the girl will be served. A strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment for all females and for males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency of service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, with the view of preventing or lessening unfair competition. Every employé in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week. This provision is, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers. There were registered in 1886 only 1,949 factories with 39,506 employés, whereas in 1911 the figures were 5,638 factories with 88,694 employés.

*Wages
Boards.*

The most important provision contained in the Act of 1896, and extended by subsequent Acts, is in regard to the formation of Boards to fix the rates of wages and piece-work in various trades, for which purpose it is provided that, to determine the lowest prices or rates to be paid, the Governor-General may appoint a special Board, if a resolution in favour of creating a Board for any process, trade, or business has been carried in both Houses of Parliament, the Board to consist of from four to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employés), who are to nominate some outside person as chairman; or if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor-in-Council shall appoint the chairman. The Board so appointed may fix the rates of payment either by piece-work or wages, or both; the maximum number of hours per week for which such rates shall be paid; a higher rate for work done in excess of such maximum number of hours; the times of beginning and ending work; a higher rate for work done outside such times; special rates for work done on Sundays and public holidays; the number of and

also the rates of pay to apprentices and improvers who may be employed. There are 111 Special Boards now in existence, of which number 90 have made determinations affecting over 130,000 operatives. These Boards are:—

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Aerated Water Trade Board | 39. Dressmakers Board |
| 2. Agricultural Implements Board | 40. Electrical Installation Board |
| 3. Artificial Manure Board | 41. Electroplaters Board |
| 4. Asphalters Board | 42. Engineering Board |
| 5. Bedstead Makers Board | 43. Engravers Board |
| 6. Boiler Makers Board | 44. Factory Engine - drivers Board |
| 7. Boot Board | 45. Farriers Board |
| 8. Boot Dealers Board | 46. Fellmongers Board |
| 9. Brassworkers Board | 47. Flour Board |
| 10. Bread Board | 48. Fuel and Fodder Board |
| 11. Bread Carters Board | 49. Furniture Board |
| 12. Brewers Board | 50. Furniture Dealers Board |
| 13. Bricklayers Board | 51. Gardeners Board |
| 14. Brick Trade Board | 52. Glass Workers Board |
| 15. Brushmakers Board | 53. Gold Miners Board |
| 16. Butchers Board | 54. Grocers Board |
| 17. Candlemakers Board | 55. Grocers' Sundries Board |
| 18. Cardboard Box Trade Board | 56. Hairdressers Board |
| 19. Carpenters Board | 57. Ham and Bacon Curers Board |
| 20. Carriage Board | 58. Hardware Board |
| 21. Carters Board | 59. Hay, Chaff, Wood and Coai Board |
| 22. Chaffcutters Board | 60. Hotel Employés Board |
| 23. Cigar Trade Board | 61. Ice Board |
| 24. Clothing Board | 62. Ironmoulders Board |
| 25. Coal Miners Board | 63. Jam Trade Board |
| 26. Commercial Clerks Board | 64. Jewellers Board |
| 27. Confectioners Board | 65. Leather Goods Board |
| 28. Coopers Board | 66. Lift Board |
| 29. Cordage Board | 67. Livery Stable Board |
| 30. Country Agricultural Implements Board | 68. Malt Board |
| 31. Country Flour Board | 69. Marine Store Board |
| 32. Country Fuel and Fodder Board | 70. Men's Clothing Board |
| 33. Country Printers Board | 71. Millet Broom Board |
| 34. Country Saddlery Board | 72. Milliners Board |
| 35. Country Shop Assistants Board | 73. Mining Engine - drivers Board |
| 36. Country Woodworkers Board | 74. Night Watchmen's Board |
| 37. Cycle Trade Board | 75. Organ Board |
| 38. Drapers Board | 76. Ovenmakers Board |
| | 77. Painters Board |
| | 78. Paper Bag Trade Board |

79. Pastrycooks Board	95. Stationery Board
80. Picture Frame Board	96. Stone Cutters Board
81. Plasterers Board	97. Tanners Board
82. Plate Glass Board	98. Tea Packing Board
83. Plumbers Board	99. Tiemakers Board
84. Polish Board	100. Tinsmiths Board
85. Pottery Trade Board	101. Tramway Board
86. Printers Board	102. Tuckpointers Board
87. Quarry Board	103. Underclothing Board
88. Rubber Trade Board	104. Undertakers Board
89. Saddlery Board	105. Watchmakers Board
90. Shirt Board	106. Waterproof Clothing Board
91. Slaters and Tilers Board	107. Wholesale Grocers Board
92. Slaughtering for Export Board	108. Wicker Board
93. Soap and Soda Board	109. Wire Workers Board
94. Starch Board	110. Woodworkers Board
	111. Woollen Trade Board

The most important provision of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1907 amended by the Act of 1909 is that which provides for the extension of the Special Board system to—

1. Any business whatsoever usually or frequently carried on in a shop.
2. Any business of carting or driving, or assisting in carting or driving, either generally, with such exceptions as are specified by the Governor in Council, or in connexion with any one or more specified trades, businesses, or occupations.
3. Any specified process, trade, or business connected with painting, renovating, repairing, or erection of buildings, or any paperhanging or plumbing work (including electrical or gas fittings) therefor, or quarrying.
4. Any business connected with the preparation or sale of firewood.

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

An Act passed in 1910, No. 2241, contained a number of clauses extending protection to various classes of workers, and administrative amendments to secure the better working of the existing law.

The following are the more important of the amendments:—
 Provided a resolution is carried by both Houses of Parliament, power is given to appoint Special Boards for persons wheresoever employed—

- (1) in any business or occupation connected with the installation of electrical fittings, appliances, motors, and heaters, including the laying of wires; or
- (2) in the business or occupation of an undertaker; or
- (3) in the occupation of a fireman, boiler attendant, or engine-driver in connexion with the use of steam-boilers or steam-engines other than steam-boilers or steam-engines connected with mines; or
- (4) in the process, trade, business, or occupation of a watch or clock maker, including repairers; or
- (5) in the occupation of a lift attendant; or
- (6) in the occupation of a fireman, boiler attendant, or engine-driver in connexion with a steam-engine or steam-boiler in or about mines of every kind; or
- (7) in the business or occupation (other than fireman, boiler attendant, or engine-drivers) of mining for—
 - (a) gold;
 - (b) coal; or
 - (c) metals or minerals other than gold or coal; or
- (8) in any shop of a kind included in the Fourth Schedule of the Principal Act.

Two special provisions were made with regard to the Boards for miners—

1. That District Boards might be appointed instead of one Special Board for the whole State.
2. That the determination of such a Board should apply to any part of such district, including the whole or any part of a shire in such district.

Under the provisions of Act 2291, the power to limit the number of apprentices was restored to Special Boards.

A number of important provisions were contained in Act No. 2305, passed at the close of 1910. It was formerly the rule to make legal provision for the appointment of a Special Board, and subsequently a resolution was submitted to both Houses of Parliament.

Under the provisions of the above Act, a Board can be appointed for any process, trade, business or occupation specified in a resolution passed by both Houses of Parliament.

General.

Determinations can be made to apply to the whole or any part of Victoria, to a branch of a trade or to any group or groups of trades. If necessary, Special Boards whose determinations would be applicable to country districts only can be appointed. Penalties are provided if an employer dismisses an employé because he is a member of a Special Board or gives information regarding his employment to an Inspector of Factories. The powers of Special Boards in dealing with matters relating to the trades for which they have been appointed are greatly extended, and the Saturday half-holiday is made permanent. Bread-carters are to get two whole holidays a month instead of one. No person may in future cart or deliver any goods, wares, merchandise, or materials whatsoever (other than perishable articles of human food, parcels of laundry work, aerated waters, or cordials or ice in the summer months), except between 7.30 in the morning and 7.30 in the evening, with an extension on Fridays till 9 in the evening, and a limitation on Saturdays to 1.30. In certain cases the Chief Inspector may allow carting within the prohibited hours, but then only subject to the condition that the carter receives 2s. an hour overtime. Cab-drivers are exempt from this provision, and so far as butchers, milkmen and bakers are concerned, their hours are regulated by certain sections of the Act previously in force. In country cities and towns, delivery may be continued until 9 o'clock on the evening of Saturday, but in such cases there shall be no carting or delivery on the usual weekly half-holiday. Carters are to receive a weekly half-holiday on Saturday in the metropolitan district, and on the usual day for the half-holiday in country cities and towns. All watchmen must have a weekly holiday. All outworkers doing piece-work in the clothing trade must be registered with the Chief Inspector of Factories, and it is forbidden that any work be given out to a person not so registered. All wages due to any person must be paid at least once a fortnight.

Effect—
Rise in
earnings.

The Chief Inspector of Factories in his report for the year 1911 stated that determinations, made by 90 Boards appointed under the Act, were in force, and furnished figures showing the

increase in average earnings consequent thereon. Some instances of the increases are given below :—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employes.		Increase.
	Before Determination was made.	In 1911.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aerated Water	1 6 7	1 14 9	0 8 2
Boot	1 3 2	1 15 4	0 12 2
Boot Dealers	1 6 11	1 17 2	0 10 3
Bread	1 12 6	2 13 8	1 1 2
Brewers	1 14 4	2 5 7	0 11 3
Brushmakers	1 3 1	2 0 7	0 17 6
Butchers	1 17 8	2 11 9	0 14 1
Candlemakers	1 4 8	1 18 11	0 14 3
Clothing	1 0 0	1 3 10	0 3 10
Engravers	1 16 11	2 9 5	0 12 6
Farriers	1 15 2	1 18 9	0 3 7
Grocers	1 7 4	2 0 11	0 13 7
Hairdressers	1 2 9	1 17 0	0 14 3
Hay, Chaff, Wood and Coal ..	1 9 10	2 3 11	0 14 1
Lift Attendants	1 5 0	2 3 3	0 18 3
Men's Clothing	1 18 4	2 13 11	0 15 7
Milliners	0 10 11	0 14 2	0 3 3
Plate Glass	1 7 6	2 0 8	0 13 2
Plumbers	1 12 8	2 9 10	0 17 2
Pottery	1 8 1	1 19 1	0 11 0
Starch	1 0 9	1 14 11	0 14 2
Stonecutters	1 15 11	2 11 11	0 16 0
Wicker	1 2 11	2 1 5	0 18 6
Woodworkers	1 13 2	2 7 7	0 14 5

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

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaux were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by a bureau under the control of the Public Works Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied, when work is

Government
Labour
Bureau.

available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. This bureau also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would be otherwise unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the bureau for the year 1911 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment:—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

Year and Month.	Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the end of each Month in the Metropolis.	Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.
1911—January	1,398	7,084
February	1,080	
March	996	
April	1,030	
May	1,527	
June	1,563	
July	1,592	
August	1,286	
September	876	
October	943	
November	871	
December	881	

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

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1901	13,865	...	2,705
1902	10,071	...	806
1903	7,629	...	1,203
1904	11,559	...	1,329
1905	12,937	571	1,531
1906	13,232	1,600	2,896
1907	10,119	1,921	2,466
1908	14,444	3,294	4,973
1909	12,134	3,900	4,050
1910	15,279	3,968	6,447
1911	14,043	3,972	7,084

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

During the year 1911, the number of railway tickets advanced was 1,897, valued at £1,560, of which £1,030 has been refunded. During the past eleven years 11,243 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £9,038, of which £5,936 has been refunded.

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered charitable relief, or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1911 was 251. The number of these which received aid from the Government was 202. The total receipts of all the institutions were £1,375,620, of which £1,060,955 was contributed by the Government, and £314,665 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure amounted to £1,356,186. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year was 14,436, and there were no less than 127,630 distinct cases of outdoor relief. With regard to the outdoor relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; in these latter cases, unfortunately, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

Charitable
and refor-
matory
institu-
tions, &c.

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

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS—INMATES, RECEIPTS,
AND EXPENDITURE, 1910-11.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average Indoors.	Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	49	2,155	52,013	£ 54,600	£ 130,859	£ 185,459	£ 169,062
Women's Hospital	1	91	1,571	2,800	9,654	12,454	11,712
Children's Hospital	1	130	12,013	2,000	22,143	24,143	15,372
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	20	2,979	400	2,039	2,439	4,225
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	70	..	3,827	140	3,967	3,967
Convalescent Homes	2	36	..	370	1,475	1,845	1,688
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions	3	250	7,752	3,350	12,616	15,966	13,741
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving House	11	5,332	..	222,051	20,672	242,723	242,723
Foundling Hospitals	2	217	..	1,250	6,997	8,247	4,653
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	149	..	2,605	5,101	7,706	6,622
Total	72	8,450	76,328	293,253	211,696	504,949	473,765
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums	8	2,168	897	29,172	18,587	47,759	66,417
Old Colonists' Association	1	73	7	..	9,470	9,470	6,620
Freemasons' Home	1	18	..	..	1,045	1,045	825
Benevolent Societies	100	..	13,652	10,224	18,996	29,220	27,816
Orphan Asylums	10	1,568	..	4,469	18,505	22,964	23,092
Total	120	3,827	14,556	43,855	66,603	110,458	124,770
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	18	430	6,590	94,488	4,102	98,590	98,590
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1	30	..	1,756	1,235	2,991	2,991
Female Refuges	10	678	..	2,000	21,302	23,302	21,166
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	6	152	..	712	4,618	5,330	5,188
Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society	1	..	304	195	570	765	767
Goals and Penal Establishments	18	813	..	50,397	..	50,397	50,397
Total	54	2,103	6,894	149,548	31,827	181,375	179,039
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners	1	56	25,994	573,699	..	573,699	573,699
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	..	..	500	1,341	2,141	1,936
Night Shelter (Dr. Singleton's)	1	..	..	..	22	22	35
Charity Organization Society	1	..	..	..	2,197	2,197	2,224
Free Dispensaries	2	..	3,858	100	679	779	668
Total	5	56	29,852	574,299	4,539	578,838	578,612
Grand Total	251	14,438	127,630	1,060,955	314,665	1,375,620	1,356,186

Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are given below. The information relates to the year ended 30th June, 1911, except in the case of the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, where it relates to the calendar year 1911, and in the case of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, where it is for the year ended 30th September, 1911. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns, nine of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows:—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1910-11.

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General Hospitals ...	49	426	4,392,634	3,337	1,316
Women's Hospital ...	1	25	144,450	119	1,214
Children's Hospital ...	1	17	151,855	121	1,255
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	14	76,777	82	936
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	4	25,720	28	919
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	12	123,944	120	1,033
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	1	7	47,153	97	486
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1	3	15,336	57	269
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	13	58,582	90	651
Receiving House for the Insane	1	12	26,783	35	765
Hospitals for the Insane ...	9	1,371	3,306,641	4,669	708
Idiot Asylum ...	1	20	114,288	307	372
Benevolent Asylums ...	8	183	2,790,819	2,745	1,017
Convalescent Homes ...	2	29	69,000	62	1,113
Blind Asylum ...	1	4	85,640	82	1,044
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1	5	87,604	90	973
Orphan Asylums ...	10	86	820,021	1,578	520
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	18	90	311,222	681	457
Female Refuges... ..	10	157	546,087	786	695
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	1	20	112,670	194	581
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1	11	46,796	50	936
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	20	60,816	60	1,014
Total	121	2,529	13,414,838	15,390	872

Charitable
institutions
—inmates
and deaths.

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

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1910-11.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
General Hospitals	27,600	2,155	2,504	Per cent. 9·1
Women's Hospital	2,587	91	41	1·6
Children's Hospital	2,341	130	333	14·2
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,045	63	6	·6
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	288	20	5	1·7
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	2,080	149	76	3·7
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	206	86	5	2·4
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	269	131	44	16·4
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	351	70	1	·3
Receiving House for the Insane	612	38	9	1·5
Hospitals for the Insane	6,000	4,965	382	6·4
Idiot Asylum	367	329	20	5·4
Benevolent Asylums	4,010	2,168	464	11·6
Convalescent Homes	996	36	...	...
Blind Asylum	113	93	1	·9
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	109	94	1	·9
Orphan Asylums	1,972	1,568	5	·3
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	8,227	7,020	90	1·1
Female Refuges	1,086	678	9	·8
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	930	152	...	...
Old Colonists' Association	80	73	5	6·2
Lara Inebriates' Institution	186	30	1	·5
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	87	56	...	...
Freemasons' Home	23	18	3	13·0
Total	61,565	20,213	4,005	6·5

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 107 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 138 infants in the Female Refuges, and 172 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

The receipts of all charitable institutions in the year 1910-11 amounted to £751,524, of which £436,859, or 58 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £732,090. Of the Government contribution, £322,122 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

Charitable institutions—receipts and expenditure.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1910-11.

Description of Institution.	Receipts.			Expenditure.
	From Government.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£
General Hospitals	54,600	130,859	185,459	169,062
Women's Hospital	2,800	9,654	12,454	11,712
Children's Hospital	2,000	22,143	24,143	15,372
Eye and Ear Hospital	950	6,344	7,294	4,461
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	400	2,039	2,439	4,225
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	2,605	5,101	7,706	6,622
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	...	1,411	1,411	1,168
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1,250	5,586	6,836	3,485
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	3,827	140	3,967	3,967
Receiving House for Insane Hospitals for the Insane	222,051	20,672	242,723	242,723
Idiot Asylum				
Benevolent Asylums	29,172	18,587	47,759	66,417
Convalescent Homes	370	1,475	1,845	1,688
Blind Asylum	1,500	2,790	4,290	4,770
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	900	3,482	4,382	4,510
Orphan Asylums	4,459	18,505	22,964	23,092
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	94,488	4,102	98,590	98,590
Female Refuges	2,000	21,302	23,302	21,156
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	712	4,618	5,330	5,138
Old Colonists' Association ... ..	...	9,470	9,470	6,620
Freemasons' Home ... ..	...	1,045	1,045	825
Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society	195	570	765	767
Charity Organization Society ... ..	...	2,197	2,197	2,224
Benevolent Societies	10,224	18,996	29,220	27,816
Free Dispensaries	100	679	779	668
Dr. Singleton's Night Shelter ... ..	...	22	22	35
Lara Inebriates' Institution	1,756	1,235	2,991	2,991
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	500	1,641	2,141	1,986
Total	436,859	314,665	751,524	732,090

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1902 the amount expended was £479,274, and this had increased to £732,090 in 1911. This is equivalent to an advance of about 53 per cent. The aid from Government has increased by 37 per cent., and that from other sources by 81 per cent. in the period mentioned.

Charities Receipts and Expenditure, 1902-1911.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1902
TO 1911.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extra-ordinary Repairs.	Maintenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1902 ..	303,292	174,027	477,319	21,994	455,480	1,800	479,274
1903 ..	280,542	178,820	459,362	20,013	450,197	2,194	481,404
1904 ..	270,460	215,532	485,992	20,044	446,634	4,746	471,424
1905 ..	268,881	226,287	495,168	36,911	438,749	6,558	482,218
1906 ..	285,227	253,749	538,976	39,561	454,389	2,954	496,904
1907 ..	361,498	250,760	612,258	122,950	474,061	5,834	602,845
1908 ..	338,086	287,264	650,350	118,642	515,038	4,162	637,842
1909 ..	378,164	264,770	642,934	131,066	542,481	3,128	676,675
1910 ..	385,467	295,741	681,208	93,879	564,033	4,465	662,377
1911 ..	436,859	314,665	751,524	147,387	580,488	4,215	732,090

Charitable institutions
—average
cost per
inmate

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

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1910-11.

Description of Institution.	Daily average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average cost of each Inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2,155	139,193	64 11 10
Women's Hospital	91	8,859	97 7 0
Children's Hospital	130	10,700	82 6 2
Eye and Ear Hospital	63	4,379	69 10 2
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	20	1,828	91 8 0
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	149	5,855	39 5 11
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ...	86	903	10 10 0
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	131	3,175	24 4 9
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	70	3,728	53 5 2
Receiving House for the Insane	5,332	174,269	32 13 8
Hospitals for the Insane			
Idiot Asylum			
Benevolent Asylums	2,168	34,591	15 19 1
Convalescent Homes	36	1,406	39 1 1
Blind Asylum	93	4,279	46 0 3
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	94	3,902	41 10 3
Orphan Asylums	1,568	20,081	12 16 2
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	7,020	97,883	13 18 10
Female Refuges	678	20,110	29 13 3
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	152	5,138	33 16 1
Old Colonists' Association	73	3,530	48 7 1
Lara Inebriates' Institution	30	2,991	99 14 0
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	56	1,713	30 11 9
Freemasons' Home	18	603	33 10 0
Total	20,213	549,116	27 3 4

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

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), the Orphan Asylums, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is not a correct indication of the burden on the public, the true cost per head of those supported by the State being about £16 18s. 10d. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the first-named institution, and for infants in the two latter groups of institutions.

HOSPITALS.

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

Royal
Melbourne
Hospital.

reserve, between Flinders-lane and Flinders-street, and a block, in a then sequestered corner of the town, bounded by Lonsdale, Little Lonsdale, Swanston, and Russell streets. The latter was ultimately chosen, and upon it the building of the hospital was commenced.

As an intimation had been received from Sydney that the Government was prepared to advance £1,000 if a like amount was subscribed in Melbourne, immediate steps were taken to fulfil the condition. At a public meeting £265 was subscribed, and a governing body was appointed. The first entertainment raised nearly £60, and was given by some gentlemen amateurs who had formed themselves into a philharmonic society. In January, 1846, tenders were called for the erection of the building. The foundation stone was laid on the same day as that of the original Prince's-bridge. Early in 1848, the building was ready for occupation, and a staff was appointed, and in March of that year two patients were admitted and four out-patients treated. By July, 1848, all the beds, 21 in number, were occupied; even at that early date applications for admission exceeded the available accommodation, and additions had therefore to be made. The original building now forms the east wing of the main building. From that time up to the present day continual additions and alterations have been made in order to meet the growing demands of an increasing population, and equip the institution for the position it has held as the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain over 300 beds, in which about 6,500 in-patients are treated annually. In the out-patients' department, 18,403 persons were treated last year, including 8,260 casualty cases. The aggregate number of attendances was 87,143.

As far as has been possible in an institution, the greater part of which was built over half a century ago, the hospital has been improved in accordance with the latest views of hospital construction and the requirements of modern science. A fine operating theatre was built a few years ago, and recently the old original theatre was reconstructed and brought thoroughly up to date. In these two theatres during 1911 no fewer than 2,307 operations were performed, the deaths numbering 102. There is a most effective system of steam supply and hot-water pipes installed at the hospital, whereby the operating theatres and some of the wards are heated; the sterilizers are supplied with steam at a high temperature, and the theatres are provided with absolutely sterilized water.

Some years ago an excellently-equipped mortuary was added to the hospital, and a fine large lecture-room for University students. Other important additions have been two new wards for septic cases. These are the most up-to-date wards in the hospital, and have proved highly satisfactory. Another department of the institution which has been excellently equipped is the X-rays room. Generous donations

from the trustees of the estate of the late Edward Wilson have provided for this highly useful department the latest and best equipment.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated up to date number 218,633; the out-patients, 931,383.

In 1910-11 the Government grant amounted to £11,000; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £793; private contributions amounted to £3,740; proceeds of entertainments to £101; bequests to £24,588; Hospital Sunday collections to £2,664; payments and contributions by in-door patients to £2,064; and out-patients' fees to £1,112; interest yielded a revenue of £2,520; and £2,429 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £51,011. The expenditure was £43,042.

During the year 1907 an offer of £120,000 was made by the trustees of the Edward Wilson estate towards the erection of a new hospital. This was subsequently added to by the trustees of the Sumner estate to the extent of £20,000, and by gifts of £1,000 each from Mrs. Aubrey Bowen and Mr. S. Miller, and a promise of £500 in fittings, and a donation of the machinery necessary to equip the hospital laundry in a thorough up-to-date manner, from Mr. A. T. Danks, making a total of £142,500. It was decided to re-build on the present site, and the architect for the committee (Mr. J. J. Clark) made a visit to Great Britain, the Continent, and America, with the object of studying modern hospital architecture before preparing the plans for the new structure. A commencement of the building operations was made at the end of the year 1910, and the medical and surgical blocks facing Lonsdale-street, and the out-patient department at the corner of Swanston and Little Lonsdale streets were occupied in 1912. Tenders have been let for the casualty department, the operation theatres, and the administration block, and the contractors are now pushing the work forward.

For many years before the establishment of this institution, the necessity for a second general hospital in Melbourne was recognised. It was not, however, until 1868 that it was finally resolved that a charitable institution should be erected as a memorial of the providential escape of H.R.H. Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, from assassination during his visit to Sydney. A site of 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone was laid in March, 1869, by His Royal Highness, after whom the hospital was named. In May, 1871, the establishment was opened, and additions were made in 1885. In 1888 a fire occurred, which entirely destroyed a portion of the original buildings. This portion was replaced, and, during the year 1901-2 further additions were made. The hospital is recognised by the Melbourne University as a

Alfred
Hospital.

clinical school for medical students, and, in addition, a training school for nurses was established in 1880, the term of instruction decided upon being one year, which term was subsequently increased to three years. The pupils are of two grades; the first pay an entrance fee and a fixed sum monthly for maintenance, &c., whilst the second receive a small and progressive salary after six months. For the year ended 30th June, 1911, the daily average number of in-patients was 156. The number of patients treated shows a continuous and steady increase. Thus, the total number of patients for the year ended 30th June, 1901, was 6,922, while during the year 1910-11 10,827 were treated. The total revenue from all sources was £16,771—£5,000 from the Government; £503 municipal grants; £2,229 private contributions; £745 proceeds of entertainments; £3,499 legacies, bequests, &c.; £1,175 Hospital Sunday collections; £1,850 contributions by in-door patients; £1,007 contributions by out-door patients; £396 from interest; and £367 all other receipts. The total expenditure was £13,652.

Homoeo-
pathic
Hospital.

This institution was first established in 1869 as a dispensary, in Spring-street, Melbourne. In 1876, the buildings were enlarged, and converted into a hospital for the treatment of both in and out-patients. In 1881, owing to annually increasing demands for the treatment of in-patients, it was decided to remove the institution to its present site on St. Kilda-road, and the northern wing and administrative quarters were then erected. In 1890, the southern wing, which is reserved for surgical cases, was added, the cost being met by a gift of £9,000 made by Mr. James S. Hosie, of Melbourne. From the date of the opening of the institution to 30th June, 1911, 182,029 patients received treatment. During the year ended on that date, 10,411 patients were treated, and there were 22,316 visits of out-patients. The average stay of in-patients was 21 days, as against 22 days in the previous year, which is an exceedingly low average; 988 operations were performed by the visiting honorary surgeons, and 2,678 casualty cases were attended to. The general death-rate for 1910-11 was 6.38 per 100 persons admitted. The establishment has attached to it a school for training nurses, who have to serve a period of three years, and pass prescribed examinations. Visitors are admitted on Sundays and Wednesdays, between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. The income for the year was £10,347—made up of £2,083 Government grant; £410 municipal grants; £863 proceeds of entertainments; £1,583 private contributions; £3,608 legacies, bequests, &c.; £400 Hospital Sunday collections; £627 contributions by in-door, and £639 by out-door patients; interest, £107; and £27 from all other sources. The expenditure was £7,149—£2,021 for buildings; £5,119 for maintenance; and miscellaneous items, £9.

The institution has accommodation for 102 patients. On 30th June, 1911, there were remaining under care 36 men and 38 women. An operating theatre has been built, and equipped with all the latest

instruments and appliances, also a children's wing, which provides accommodation for 28 children. A building for nurses' accommodation, a laundry containing the latest modern machinery, mortuary buildings, and out-patients' waiting-rooms have been constructed recently.

This hospital for incurables, the only one of its kind in Victoria, is situated on a block of 17 acres at Heidelberg. Its origin belongs to the year 1880, when Mrs. Thomas Austin, of Barwon Park, Winchelsea, offered £6,000 for the purposes of the institution. Mrs. Austin died on 2nd September, 1910, aged 89 years, and a colonist of 69 years' standing. Other donations quickly followed that given by her, and the Government of the day granted the present site. The hospital was opened in August, 1882, and provided accommodation for 66 patients. In 1884, a wing, containing sixteen beds for the reception of cancer patients, was opened, and in 1900 another wing was added for consumptives, containing 41 beds. Alterations in 1897 increased by eight the accommodation for cancer patients. The Nurses' Home, with accommodation for 30 nurses and women servants, was erected and furnished in 1897. This building was enlarged in 1906 so as to increase the accommodation for nurses and women servants to 45 beds. In 1901, the children's wing was erected, and a laundry has since been added. In 1905 an additional wing for consumptives, capable of containing 60 patients, was opened. Of the total cost (about £6,000) of the erection of the building, £5,110 was provided by Mr. Joseph Kronheimer, of Melbourne. At the request of the Government additional accommodation has been provided for cancer and consumptive patients. The sanitary arrangements of the institution have been entirely remodelled, the whole of the waste material (sewage, &c.) being treated by the septic tank system. Up to 30th June, 1911, 3,549 patients were admitted; of this number 2,480 died in the institution, 863 were discharged, and 206 were at the date mentioned occupying beds in the various wards. The patients treated have been all of the one class, *i.e.*, chronic or incurable, many of them reaching the hospital in a dying condition. Amongst the number set out as having been discharged, a fair percentage, say, 45 per cent., have benefited very considerably from the treatment received in the institution, the remaining 55 per cent. having left of their own accord, many of them preferring to die amongst their friends and relatives. Practically no cures have been effected. The patients treated during the year 1910-11 numbered 503, of whom 286 were new admissions, and the daily average was 219. The institution is well supported by the public. Of the total expenditure for 1910-11—£11,867—£2,154 was spent on buildings, and £9,713 on maintenance and other expenses. The revenue was £13,047; made up of £4,650 Government grant; £294 municipal grants; £3,052 private contributions; £59 proceeds of entertainments; £2,275 legacies and bequests; £895 Hospital

Austin
Hospital
for
Incurables.

Sunday collections; £875 contributions from in-door patients; £896 interest; and £51 miscellaneous contributions. The institution now contains 30 dormitories with 230 beds. There were 118 males and 88 females under care on 30th June, 1911.

St. Vincent's
Hospital,
Melbourne.

This hospital was founded in 1893, and is conducted by the Sisters of Charity. Though associated with the Roman Catholic Church, the work of the institution is carried on upon entirely unsectarian lines. The present building in Victoria Parade, Fitzroy, forms only the rear portion of the proposed completed structure, and contains 138 beds. That the work of the institution conforms in every way to the most modern requirements is evidenced by the fact that the Faculty of Medicine of the Melbourne University recommended the hospital for recognition as a clinical school, and the University Council accepted the recommendation, subject to the enlargement of the existing department of pathology. The necessary addition to the hospital buildings was made, and fully equipped, and the work of the clinical school has been carried out with highly satisfactory results. During the year ended 30th June, 1911, 2,387 patients were treated in the institution, an increase of 202 upon the previous year; and the number of out-patients who received treatment was 17,637, or 2,449 more than in 1909-10, the total number of patients for the year being thus 20,024. The number of casualties treated was 3,507, as against 2,406 during the preceding 12 months. The number of surgical operations performed on patients was 2,665; of these patients 38 died, the death-rate after operations thus being only 1.4 per cent. The receipts totalled £11,702, made up of £3,106 Government grant; £155 from municipalities; £3,217 private contributions; £314 proceeds of entertainments; £1,322 bequests; £672 Hospital Sunday fund; £2,356 patients' contributions; and £560 from other sources. The expenditure was £13,465, of which £1,300 was spent on buildings and repairs, and £12,165 on maintenance, &c.

Women's
Hospital.

The necessity for establishing an institution of this kind forced itself upon the attention of the benevolent ladies of Melbourne over fifty years ago. In 1856 it was definitely founded, its original title being the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Women and Children, and it was the first institution of this special nature erected in Australia. The work was first carried on in Collins-street, Eastern Hill, but a permanent site was eventually granted by the Government in Madeline-street, Carlton, where the hospital was opened in 1858, its title being altered in 1868 to Women's Hospital, the name it now bears. Important and improved additions have since been made, including the Genevieve Ward Wing, constituting the largest portion of the midwifery department, nurses' quarters, and the infirmary and midwifery operating theatres. The management has also caused to be erected an up-to-date pathological block and an eclamptic ward, and the work of building a new out-patients' department and nurses' quarters is now completed.

These buildings are part of a complete scheme for a new Women's Hospital. To further this object, a handsome wing has just been erected, and will soon be ready for occupation. It consists of two wards of 16 beds each for gynæcological cases, and another of 16 beds for the treatment of septic cases. The cost, without furnishings, was about £12,000. The furniture is estimated to cost £1,000, towards which the President is inviting donations. The next block to be erected is to consist of infirmary wards, the estimated cost being £12,000. The institution, early in its career, attained a high reputation for the efficient help it afforded, and the accommodation had to be augmented from time to time to meet increasing demands. It is a special training school in gynæcology and midwifery for medical men and nurses, and the excellent work carried on is fully recognised. Up to 30th June, 1911, the number of patients received into the hospital was 56,916, of whom 41,046 were admitted for confinements, and the attendances of out-patients were 200,762. During the year ended on that date, 1,830 midwifery and 663 gynæcological patients were admitted, which, together with 94 remaining at the close of the previous year, gave a total of 2,587 treated. There were also in the same period 3,312 attendances of 1,359 out-patients. There is now accommodation in the institution for 119 in-patients, each bed having the most liberal allowance of space. It is governed by a committee of 15 ladies and 6 gentlemen, on whom falls the responsibility of the effective working of the whole establishment. The professional work devolves chiefly on an honorary staff. The receipts amounted to £12,454, made up of £2,800 Government grant; £361 municipal grants; £1,334 private contributions; £457 entertainments; £4,568 bequests and donations; £915 Hospital Sunday collections; £1,136 from patients; £620 from medical students and pupil nurses; £145 interest; and £118 from other sources. The expenditure on maintenance, &c., was £8,927, and on buildings, £2,785, a total of £11,712. Every patient who passes through the wards is seen and spoken to by some lady or ladies of the committee—many before admission, but all before leaving. No patient is discharged without inquiries being made as to her home, &c., and, where possible, the wants of needy patients are supplied. To prevent abuse of the charitable trust, certain ladies each week give much of their time to interviewing applicants for admission, with the view of inquiring into their circumstances.

In this establishment 22 patients remained under care on 30th June, 1910. During the year, 1910-11, 266 were admitted, making a total of 288 treated; 253 were cured or relieved, 4 were discharged as incurable, 4 left at their own request, and 5 died, leaving 22 in the hospital on 30th June, 1911. As regards out-patients the total number of distinct cases treated was 2,979, and the attendances numbered 12,269. Owing to building operations the wards were closed for several weeks, consequently the number of cases treated was smaller than in the preceding year. The income for 1910-11 was

Queen
Victoria
Memorial
Hospital
for Women
and
Children.

£2,439, made up as follows:—Government grant, £400; municipal grant, £112; private contributions, £556; legacies, bequests, &c., £419; Hospital Sunday collections, £183; out-patients' contributions, £421; in-patients' fees, £180; interest, £80; and miscellaneous receipts, £88. The expenditure was £4,225, of which £2,362 was expended on buildings, &c.

**Children's
Hospital.**

The Children's Hospital, Melbourne, was founded in 1870. Commencing as a small cottage hospital in Stephen-street, it has, during the forty-two years of its existence, increased to a place in the front rank of children's hospitals of the world. At the present time new buildings are being erected at a cost of £20,000, and when these are completed there will be accommodation for 130 in-patients, as well as for 30 children at the Convalescent Cottage, the total number of beds then available being 160. At the out-patients' department the largest portion of the hospital work is done, nearly 80,000 attendances being recorded yearly. During the year ended 30th June, 1911, there were 2,204 cases admitted, which, with 137 in the hospital on 1st July, 1910, made a total of 2,341 in-patients treated during the year, of whom 1,886 were discharged relieved, 333 died, and 122 were in the institution on 30th June, 1911. The total in-door patients treated from the commencement number 33,020. In the out-patients' department during the year 1910-11, 12,013 children attended 76,177 times; and since the foundation of the hospital there have been 1,572,213 attendances of 305,661 out-patients. The cost of maintenance last year was £11,060, which, with £4,312 expended on the building, &c., gave a total expenditure of £15,372. The revenue was £24,143, made up of £2,000 Government grant; £428 municipal grants; £2,735 private contributions; £205 proceeds of entertainments; £1,701 bequests; £1,166 Hospital Sunday collections; £316 school and church collections; £1,036 contributions by patients; £625 interest; £253 miscellaneous revenue; and £13,678 special donations in response to building appeal.

**Eye and
Ear
Hospital.**

The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital deals not only with the diseases which, as the name of the institution implies, are peculiar to the eye and ear, but also with diseases in parts adjacent to those organs, viz., the nose, pharynx, naso-pharynx, and larynx. Thus classes of ailments are treated in the institution which are not only the cause of extreme suffering in themselves, but are also, when unchecked, the means of producing much helplessness and poverty, arising from deafness, blindness, &c., and of entailing a heavy burden on the community. It places within the reach of all persons, without distinction of creed or country, every attainable means for the relief or cure of diseases of the eye and ear, provided they are unable to pay for private treatment. The patients treated are distributed throughout the whole of the Commonwealth; New Zealand also contributing its quota. The in-patients admitted during 1911 numbered 977, making, with 68 in the institution at the commencement of the year, a total

of 1,045 treated. The patients discharged numbered 982, of whom 965 were stated to be cured or relieved, and 6 to be incurable; 5 were discharged at their own request, and 6 died. Besides these, there were 7,752 out-patients treated, of whom 140 were from the other States and New Zealand, 127 were from the various charitable institutions in Victoria, and 67 were wards of the State. The total number of attendances was 42,349, and of operations 1,234. The hospital buildings are situated on a fine site in Victoria-parade, East Melbourne, and include considerable additions made since their first erection. The increased accommodation thus obtained, whilst affording ample room for the out-patient department, which was urgently needed, has also admitted of an increase of 24 beds, thus bringing the total number up to 82, and making the hospital one of the largest of its kind in the British Empire. The total of the receipts for the year 1910-11 was £7,294, made up of £950 Government grant; £308 from municipalities; £760 private contributions; £2,284 legacies, bequests, &c.; £1,499 out-patients' fees; £483 in-patients' fees; £497 from Hospital Sunday and church collections; £302 interest; and £211 from other sources. The expenditure on maintenance, &c., was £4,387, and on building £74; this, together with the interest on bank overdraft and the balance due on building account, still leaves the institution in debt to the extent of £358.

ROYAL VICTORIAN INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind occupies a site in St. Kilda-road, Melbourne. The institution is strictly undenominational in its character, and its objects are to give a suitable scholastic and religious education to the young blind of the State, and to teach them trades or professions by means of which they may earn an independent livelihood. It is further intended, as far as the exigencies of trade will permit, to give employment in its industrial department to blind people, who, having completed their term of training, may be unable to get work elsewhere. This, however, is restricted to the demand for the goods made. The institute is not in any sense a benevolent asylum for the indigent blind, who can not only be maintained cheaper, but can also be better cared for in the ordinary institutions for the care of the destitute. The scholastic education is similar to that in the State schools, varied only in the apparatus and means employed. Music is an important part of the education of the blind; those who display exceptional talent are trained for the musical profession, and the skill of the pupils is utilized as a means of raising revenue for the institution by means of concerts and band performances in various parts of the State. In the industrial branch, pupils are trained in the trades of brush, basket, mat, matting and millet broom making, the period of training varying from two to five years. Wages are paid at somewhat higher rates than those ruling in the various trades of a similar character outside. Some less proficient workers have their

Institute for
Blind.

wages supplemented by a bonus. Its outside workers are assisted in times of sickness by "The Blind Workers' Sick Benefit Society." The funds of this society are maintained by weekly contributions from its members, and it is subsidized by a grant from the board of management of the institute equal to the amount of the members' contributions. The society is managed by a committee of its members, assisted by the principal of the institution and the accountant, who acts as honorary treasurer. The institution contains 4 dormitories, with 82 beds. There were under care on 1st July, 1910, 94 persons; 19 were admitted during the year, 15 were discharged, and 1 died, leaving 97 under care at the end of the financial year. The sales of manufactured goods realized £8,443. The receipts in 1910-11 reached a total of £4,290—comprising £1,500 Government grant; £197 municipal grants; £1,457 private contributions; £195 legacies and bequests; £798 interest; and £143 from all other sources. The total expenditure was £4,770. This amount is exclusive of the trading department expenditure, which department showed a loss for the year of £139.

VICTORIAN DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION.

Deaf and
Dumb
Institution.

The Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution occupies a site in St. Kilda-road, Melbourne, and is a home and school combined for deaf children from all parts of the State, irrespective of creed or nationality. At the beginning of the year there were 90 pupils on the roll. During the year ended 30th June, 1911, 19 new pupils were admitted, and 12 discharged, leaving 97 on the roll. A total of 534 pupils have been educated at the institution, and the great majority of these are not only able to earn their own living, but are useful members of the community.

The combined oral and manual teaching, which is used in the majority of similar institutions throughout the world, is also used here, with very gratifying results. In addition to the ordinary school subjects, the boys are instructed in carpentering, bootmaking, and gardening, and the girls are taught dressmaking, plain and fancy needlework, and all kinds of domestic duties. Parliament has recently passed an amending Education Act, which contains clauses making the education of the deaf compulsory, so that a very considerable increase in the number of deaf pupils is certain, as there are many deaf children throughout the State who are not receiving any instruction. The receipts for the year amounted to £4,382, made up of £900, Government grant; £239, municipal grants; £1,983, private contributions; £649, interest; £558, payments for pupils; and £53 from all other sources. The expenditure was £4,510, viz., maintenance, £3,902; buildings and extraordinary repairs, £589; and miscellaneous, £19. In addition there was a sum of £325 spent on laundry improvements; this was met by special donations not included in the ordinary receipts.

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.

In addition to the nine Benevolent Asylums connected with general hospitals, there are eight other of these institutions in the State; two are situated in Ballarat, one each in Bendigo, Beechworth, and Castle-maine, the remaining three being in Melbourne. The number of inmates on 1st July, 1910, was 2,272; the number admitted during the year was 1,738; and the total number discharged cured, relieved, or otherwise, and died was 1,883; leaving under care on 30th June, 1911, in all the institutions, 2,127. The Government grant in aid for the year 1910-11 was £29,172; from municipalities a sum of £1,047 was received; private contributions amounted to £4,044; proceeds of entertainments to £903; legacies, bequests, and special donations to £2,257; Hospital Sunday collections to £1,190; and payments by patients to £4,679; interest was £1,584; and from all other sources £2,883 was received, making a total income of £47,759. The expenditure was £66,417, of which £31,686 was spent on buildings.

One hundred benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1911. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of three of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of any of the others, with the exception of the Central Methodist Mission and Scots' Church Mission. The distinct adult individuals relieved during the year numbered about 13,652; the receipts amounted to £29,220, of which £10,224 was from Government, £1,527 from municipalities, and £17,469 from private sources; the expenditure was £27,816.

ORPHAN ASYLUMS.

There are ten of these establishments in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Melbourne. The number of children under care on 1st July, 1910, was 1,555; the number admitted during the 12 months was 417; and the total discharged and died, 647; leaving under care on 30th June, 1911, 1,325. In two of these establishments, the Nazareth Home at Ballarat, and St. Aidan's Orphanage, Bendigo, the particulars respecting cost of maintenance, &c., cannot be furnished. In the other eight institutions, the receipts totalled £22,964—made up of £4,459, Government grant; £451, municipal grants; £5,528, private contributions; £555, proceeds of entertainments; £3,713, legacies and bequests; £207, Hospital Sunday contributions; £2,514, payments on account of orphans maintained; £5,025, interest; and £512, other receipts. The total expenditure was £23,092—£2,690 for buildings, and £20,402 for maintenance and other expenses.

CONSUMPTION SANATORIA.

Greenvale
Consumption
Sanatorium.

The Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium, at Broadmeadows, was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. This institution was established by the Government, and is under the control of Dr. B. Burnett Ham, as Permanent Head of the Public Health Department and Administrator of State Sanatoria. During the year ended 31st December, 1911, 332 patients were treated at the Sanatorium, 56 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number 162 did very well, 55 were classed as incurable, and 43 were discharged at their own request, or for special reasons (some of these being cases sent in for a short period for educational purposes). One death occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 62 patients remaining under care. The benefits of treatment and education that this institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages have now been received by 1,800 patients. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the Sanatorium, the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed. There is now accommodation for the treatment of 90 patients.

Amherst
and
Daylesford
Sanatoria.

There are two other consumption sanatoria in the State, situated at Amherst and Daylesford. Both of these are administered by the hospital authorities under the direction of the Public Health Department, are for the use of females only, and are maintained by the Government. At the Amherst institution there is accommodation for 62 patients (30 beds having recently been added), and at the Daylesford one for 12 patients. During the year 1911, 157 patients were treated at Amherst, of whom 105 were discharged, their condition being much improved; 20 left, described as incurable; 2 died; and 30 remained at the end of the year. At Daylesford, 52 patients were under care during the year. The result of the treatment was that in 37 cases the disease was arrested or the condition of the patients was much improved, 1 case was incurable, 3 patients left at their own request, and 11 were inmates at the close of the year.

In all of these sanatoria, patients whose circumstances warrant it are admitted free.

OTHER CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Convalescent homes.

In addition to the hospitals, there are two Convalescent Homes—one for men situated at Cheltenham, and the other for women at Clayton—with accommodation for 62 inmates. The number of inmates at the beginning of the year 1910-11 was 40; 956 were admitted during the year, 959 were discharged, and 37 remained under care on 30th June, 1911. The Government grant in aid of these institutions amounted to £370; and municipal grants to £82; the revenue from private contributions was £428; from

legacies, bequests, &c., £386; from Hospital Sunday collections, &c., £312; from relatives, £101; and from interest and other sources, £166—a total of £1,845. The expenditure was £214 on buildings, &c.; and £1,474 on maintenance, &c.—a total of £1,688.

Two free dispensaries furnished returns for 1911—the Collingwood and Fitzroy Free Medical Dispensary, and the Richmond General Dispensary. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1911, numbered 3,858. The visits to or by these persons numbered 17,619. The receipts amounted to £779, of which £100 was from Government and £679 from other sources. The total expenditure was £668.

This hospital was established on 1st April, 1901. The original cost of the buildings was £2,200, and about £2,000 has been expended since its foundation in additions and improvements. The total number of inmates on 30th June, 1910, was 76; 130 were admitted during the year, 3 died, 107 were discharged or adopted, and 96 were under care on 30th June, 1911. The institution contains 7 dormitories and 97 beds. It is supported chiefly by donations and collections. It is managed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose aim is to protect infant life, procure suitable homes for the children, and afford shelter to destitute mothers. The condition of the institution has been greatly improved, open-air accommodation for the infants having been provided.

The objects of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and, if the child is over six months old, must undertake to contribute something towards its support. Young women are received at the institution without charge for three months before the birth of the infant, and can remain for six months after they return from the Women's Hospital. Those children who are naturally fed have thus every chance of surviving. While in the institution, the young mothers are trained in domestic and laundry work by an efficient housekeeper, under whose supervision they do all the work of the Home for the staff and inmates. On their leaving, the matron secures a situation for them, either with or without the child. In the latter case, the child may be left at the Home, the mother contributing towards its support. The boarding-out system is annually on the increase, and, since foster-mothers are paid till the child reaches 14 years of age, it entails a heavy expenditure on the part of the institution. Probationers are trained as domestic nurses, their course of training extending over a period of twelve months, after which they receive certificates of efficiency, provided they pass the test examination set at the close of the course. During the year ended

Free dispensaries.

Broad-meadows Foundling Hospital.

The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home.

30th June, 1911, 269 children were in the care of the institution. Of these, 80 were discharged to friends or relations, 9 were adopted, 87 were boarded-out, 44 died, and 49 remained in the institution on 30th June, 1911. The ordinary and extraordinary receipts amounted to £6,836, of which £1,250 was received from the Government. The expenditure was £3,485, of which £1,105 was for boarding-out.

Refuges for women.

At the present time these refuges are ten in number, and are all situated in or near large centres of population. The women while under care in the institutions are expected to work to the best of their ability, a suitable share of labour being allotted to each. Laundry work is the chief means of providing employment, whilst sewing, art needlework, embroidery, &c., also provide occupation to a limited extent. During the year ended 30th June, 1911, the Government subsidized the establishments to the extent of £2,000; £18,430 was obtained as the result of the labour of inmates, and £2,872 from other sources, making the total receipts £23,302. The expenditure amounted to £21,156—made up of £464 spent on buildings, and £20,692 on maintenance, &c. The following statement contains particulars of the number of inmates in the separate institutions during the year 1910-11:—

REFUGES FOR WOMEN, 1910-11.

Female Refuges.	Number Admitted.		Born in the Home.	Number Discharged.		Inmates on 30th June, 1911.	
	Women and Girls.	Infants.		Women and Girls.	Infants.	Women and Girls.	Infants.
Ballarat Refuges and Alexandra Infants' Home ...	10	...	11	17	12	12	31
Bendigo Rescue Home ...	11	6	...	11	5	7	5
Carlton Refuge ...	41	35	...	46	39	39	24
Elizabeth Fry Retreat South Yarra ...	51	...	...	44	1	27	...
Geelong ...	7	1	8	7	6	10	8
House of Mercy Cheltenham ...	14	...	...	16	...	23	...
Magdalen Asylum Abbotsford ...	161	...	...	145	...	383	...
Magdalen Asylum South Melbourne ...	50	...	...	45	...	154	...
South Yarra Home ...	51	...	...	40	...	29	...
Temporary Home, for Friendless and Fallen Women, Collingwood ...	23	4	...	27	7	4	...
Total ...	419	46	19	398	70	688	68

There are six rescue homes controlled by the Salvation Army, at Abbotsford, Ballarat, Bendigo, Brunswick, Fitzroy, and Geelong. The establishments contained 194 beds on 1st July, 1910, when there were under care 140 adults and 30 children. During the year 790 adults and 138 children were admitted; of the adults, 222 were placed at service or restored to friends; 537 were discharged at their own request; and 8 were sent to hospitals and other institutions; of the infants, 21 died; 109 went out with their mothers; and 11 were put out to be nursed or provided with homes. The Army received £712 from the Government, in aid of the institutions; £173, private contributions; and £4,445, the proceeds of the labour of the inmates—a total of £5,330. The total expenditure was £5,138.

Salvation
Army
rescue
homes.

At Dr. Singleton's Night Shelter for Women, Collingwood, 2,871 cases were accommodated during the year 1910-11, viz., 2,866 women, and 5 children. The expenses were £35, which were defrayed out of the "General Charity Fund." In addition to the amount obtained from this source, there were numerous contributions in the shape of food.

Night
shelter.

Since 1872 a society has been in existence for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessaries, railway passes, and various kinds of tools of trade; and those who desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior, or to leave the State. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The work is aided by honorary correspondents in country centres. Very valuable assistance is given in connexion with the moral reformation of the young offender. The improvement of the hardened criminal is a matter of great difficulty, but the society is a valuable help to those who have not become confirmed in careers of crime and wrong-doing, and minimizes the tendencies of drifting into the criminal class of those who have formed vicious and evil habits. The number of individuals relieved in 1910-11 was 304. The receipts amounted to £765, including grants from the Government (£195) and the Penal Department (£377), and contributions from private sources, while the expenditure was £767.

Victorian
Discharged
Prisoners'
Aid
Society.

This association was established in Victoria in 1883. Its objects are to instruct all classes in the preliminary treatment of the sick and injured. Since the inception of the association its influence has been steadily increasing, and the number of people instructed is growing larger every day. The total number who had been trained to 30th April, 1912, was 23,576; the number of persons who are fully qualified is 1,001; 4,627 railway employes and 553 members of the police force have been specially educated in the work; and 13,824 certificates and medallions have been issued. Two motor and two horse-drawn

St. John
Ambulance
Associa-
tion.

ambulance waggons are stationed at 25 Lang-lane (Tel. 3264), at the back of the Grand Hotel, Spring-street, one at 33 Grosvenor-street, South Yarra (Tel. Windsor 2246), and one at 39 Wilson-street, Moonee Ponds (Tel. Ascot 201). The waggons attended to 5,585 calls during the year, of which 1,469 were charity cases, the distance travelled being 43,383 miles. First aid is rendered by trained men when necessary. Ashford litters are also provided for the use of the public in cases of accident in the city.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

Charity Or-
ganization
Society.

The society has been established in Melbourne since 1887, its objects being:—(1) To encourage and organize charitable work and to promote co-operation therein; (2) To check imposture and professional mendicity, and to discourage indiscriminate alms-giving; (3) To inquire into all applications for assistance, with the view of ascertaining if and in what way each case can be helped; (4) To afford (where necessary) immediate relief during inquiry or pending arrangements with charitable institutions or aid from other sources; (5) To maintain a woodyard, or other labour test, so that the means of earning food or shelter shall be open to any applicant able and willing to work; (6) To establish a loan fund; (7) To keep records of all cases for the purpose of reference, and to maintain a Central Register of help given by all relieving agencies. All of these objects, with the exception of the latter part of (7), have been, or are being, achieved to a greater or less extent, but the philanthropic work of the State still provides an extensive field for further efforts towards organization and co-operation. The society is managed by an executive committee elected by a council empowered to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. This council consists of a nominee of each of 56 metropolitan charities, and of 20 members elected at an annual meeting of subscribers of the society. The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1911, were—Administration Account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £833; expenditure, £932; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £1,164; expenditure, £1,097; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £200; expenditure, £195; Woodyard—Receipts, £848; expenditure, £808. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 1,267, of which 710 were new cases investigated. The result of investigation into these 710 cases showed that in 637 instances distress was due to misfortune, and in 61 to misconduct; while 12 cases come under other headings. The work of the society during the year 1910-11 included (1) an effort, now well on the way to success, to promote a scheme for the registration with a central office of all applications for assistance, and (2) the compilation of an elaborate guide to all the charities and allied societies in Victoria, which was published early in 1912. Special efforts are made to deal with applicants for alms on street and doorstep. The society

claims to have prevented a large amount of imposture, to have relieved subscribers of the annoying feeling that their benevolence was often wasted on unworthy objects, and to an extent to have stimulated and wisely directed the flow of charity. Especially good work has been done in cases where employment has been found for those who, without the society's aid, might have degenerated into permanent burdens on public or private charity, and in the large number of cases in which relatives of indigent persons have been induced to recognise natural claims in a community where no legal obligation is entailed by relationship other than that of husband to wife and of parent to child. The woodyard is a very practical part of the society's work. It affords a test of the sincerity of men who ask help on the ground that they cannot get work; and it gives temporary work to those who really need it. The society has consistently advocated the establishment of labour colonies. That at Leongatha was founded by its advice, and with its assistance nineteen years ago. It was also responsible, either alone or in co-operation with others, for the Children's Court Act and the Infant Life Protection Act, and for the inauguration in 1906 of the Victorian Provident Aid Society, and in 1909 of the Provident Loan Society of Victoria Limited. The former society lends money to deserving applicants, on personal security, in amounts not exceeding £25, and charges 6d. for every £1 lent to cover expenses. The latter lends any amount on any approved security, and charges 1 per cent. per month for the accommodation. The objective in both cases is to help people in distress to maintain their independence by removing the stigma popularly associated with charitable relief.

LABOUR COLONY, LEONGATHA.

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

Labour
Colony,
Leongatha.

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

On 14th June, 1904, 462 acres of the old Labour Colony lands, including the homestead, were proclaimed a Labour Colony, and Trustees were appointed to act from 1st July, 1904. Subsequently 40 acres were alienated for a gravel reserve, and 40 acres for a High School.

The present trustees are E. J. Nevell, Esq. (chairman), P. J. Carroll, Esq. (superintendent trustee), J. H. Mullaly, Esq., J. R. Pescott, Esq., and Dr. S. S. Cameron, Director of Agriculture. Mr. W. H. Crate is the secretary, and the city address is 453 Little Lonsdale-street, Melbourne.

The object sought by its establishment was to afford temporary relief at sustenance wages to able-bodied destitute men. During the first year of its existence 1,013 men were sent to the colony, and up to the present 7,946 applicants have been afforded relief. The colonists are instructed in the general work of farming, dairying and fruit and vegetable growing, and pig breeding is carried on extensively. During the year ended 30th June, 1912, 201 men were admitted, a weekly average of 47 was maintained during the whole year for an average term of 10 weeks, 73 left looking for work, 64 left with engagements, 42 left without notice, 9 were discharged for various reasons, 4 were sent to Melbourne for medical treatment, 9 received tickets but did not reach the colony, and 37 were at work on 30th June, 1912. The cost of maintenance, including food, wages, and management, was 7s. 11d. per week per man.

When the accounts were balanced for the financial year ended 30th June, 1912, it was found that there was a credit balance of £188 in trust accounts.

The receipts from sales, &c., amounted to £2,212, as follows:—

Dairy produce	...	...	...	...	£624
Farm produce and garden	...	...	...	...	525
Horses	...	...	...	...	86
Pigs	...	...	...	...	442
Hides, Bones, &c.	...	...	...	...	93
Colonists' Board and Lodging	...	...	...	...	114
Wages of men working off the place	...	...	...	...	164
Tobacco	...	...	...	...	50
Stores	...	...	...	...	15
Boots and Clothes	...	...	...	...	63
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	36

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

	£	s.	d.
1893-4	4,213	15	2
1894-5	3,203	8	0
1895-6	2,473	13	1
1896-7	2,219	14	4
1897-8	2,729	13	2
1898-9	4,091	8	1
1899-1900	3,884	5	11
1900-1	3,000	0	0
1901-2	2,374	3	6
1902-3	3,627	7	10
1903-4	1,998	18	11
1904-5	999	19	7
1905-6	499	19	9
1906-7	496	9	10
1907-8	449	13	7
1908-9	549	19	9
1909-10	550	0	0
1910-11	550	0	0
1911-12	400	0	0
Total	38,312	15	6

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

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

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

The "Australian Health Society" was established in Melbourne in 1875. It is supported by about 250 members, and is managed by a president, three vice-presidents, a treasurer, secretary, and sixteen members of council, nine of whom are ladies. Its objects are—(1) To create an educated public opinion with regard to sanitary matters in general, by the aid of the platform, the press, and other suitable means; (2) To induce and assist people, by personal influence, example and encouragement, to live in accordance with recognised laws whereby health is maintained and disease is prevented; (3) To seek the removal

Health
Society.

of all noxious influences deleterious to the public health, and to influence and facilitate legislation in that direction. To effect these objects (its methods being distinctly benevolent), the society prints and distributes freely pamphlets, tracts, and wall sheets bearing upon the preservation of health; maintains a lending library of specially selected works for the use of members; and arranges courses of public health lectures. The ladies' committee of the council organizes series of illustrated "Health Talks for Wives and Daughters" in thickly populated parts of the suburbs, thus reaching many greatly in need of sanitary enlightenment. Admission is in all cases free. In pursuance of the plan of testing the work done in the inculcation of health and temperance lessons in the State schools, an examination is held annually in those subjects, with the concurrence of the Minister of Public Instruction, of pupils of thirteen years of age and upwards. At the last examination 157 candidates presented themselves, of whom 64 passed, and were awarded prizes and certificates. In the latter part of 1905 arrangements were completed by which the "Victorian Association for the Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis" and the "Women's Health Society" were amalgamated with the Australian Health Society, the view being taken that the union would avoid overlapping, tend to further the spread of hygienic knowledge, and generally promote the cause of sanitary progress. The work of educating the community in methods of preventing consumption and its spread goes on unceasingly. The society is supported by donations and subscriptions ranging from 5s. per annum upwards. The office is located in Empire Buildings, Flinders-street.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

Humane
Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victorian Humane Society." Its objects are as follows:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures; (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia; (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful; (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes. During the year ended 30th June, 1912, 54 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 25 certificates, 9 bronze medals, 3 silver medals, and 2 gold medals were granted. The receipts during the year amounted to £408, and the expenditure to £347. The institution has placed and maintains 340 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1911-12, 13 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 3 in Western Australia, 1 in Tasmania, 4 in Queensland, 1 in South Australia, and 3 in New South Wales. The society has 156 honorary correspondents,

residing as follows:—54 in Victoria, 35 in New South Wales, 25 in New Zealand, 28 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 3 in Western Australia. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and as the awards made by the society appear to give complete satisfaction throughout the States, there is no urgency for forming local branches of the society in the other States.

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

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

Period.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1892 to 1901 ...	1,562	277	1,839
1902 to 1911 ...	1,145	268	1,413

A large falling off is shown in the last ten years, both in the actual number of persons drowned, and in the proportion to the population, the rate per 100,000 being 11 in the later decennium as against 16 in the earlier one.

Taking the ten years ended 1911, the ages of persons accidentally drowned were as follows:—

AGES OF PERSONS ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED IN VICTORIA,
1902 TO 1911.

Age.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 10 years	229	83	312
10 to 20 years	238	46	284
20 to 40 years	283	65	348
40 to 60 years	245	54	299
60 years and over	150	20	170
Total	1,145	268	1,413

The Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals was established on 4th July, 1871. For the first 10½ years of its existence it was known as the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and in 1895 it was incorporated. By the enforcement of the existing laws, and the procuring of such

Society for
the Pro-
tection of
Animals.

further legislation as may be deemed expedient, it seeks to prevent wanton and unnecessary cruelty. The creation of a wholesome and enlightened public opinion is also aimed at, since it is recognised that to excite and sustain such opinion regarding man's duty to the lower animals is even of greater importance than the enforcement of the law, particularly in those classes of cases where pain and suffering may actually be caused in ignorance, and where consequently a little more knowledge of animals would result in the diminution of the unconscious practice of cruelty. To this end, papers and leaflets dealing with the proper, humane, and considerate treatment of animals are widely distributed. Honorary agents have been appointed in more than 180 different centres, and these, by disinterested service, under the supervision of and in co-operation with the secretary and inspector in Melbourne, forward the work of the institution in every portion of the State. During the year ended 30th June, 1911, 861 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 600 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 98 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £617 and the expenditure to £509.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

Hospital
Saturday
and
Sunday.

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

COLLECTIONS, 1873 TO 1911.

	£		£
1873 to 1898 ...	190,104	1906 ...	8,011
1899 ...	5,853	1907 ...	8,813
1900 ...	5,901	1908 ...	9,146
1901 ...	6,034	1909 ...	9,398
1902 ...	6,669	1910 ...	10,555
1903 ...	7,058	1911 ...	11,650
1904 ...	7,795		
1905 ...	8,235	Total ...	£295,222

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions, as well as the total sums collected, from the inception of the fund to 1910, and for the year 1911, are given below:—

Distribution of moneys collected on Hospital Saturday and Sunday.

DISTRIBUTION, 1873 TO 1911.

Institution.	Amount Distributed.		
	1873 to 1910.	1911.	Total.
	£	£	£
Melbourne Hospital	79,557	2,246	81,803
Alfred Hospital	34,816	1,288	36,104
Benevolent Asylum	23,714	722	24,436
Women's Hospital	24,073	910	24,983
Children's Hospital	32,354	1,326	33,680
Eye and Ear Hospital	13,532	526	14,058
Homœopathic Hospital	13,178	579	13,757
Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	8,267	...	8,267
Richmond Dispensary	1,721	75	1,796
Collingwood Dispensary	1,900	...	1,900
Austin Hospital for Incurables	16,529	983	17,512
Convalescent Home for Women	3,115	200	3,315
" " Men	2,600	200	2,800
Melbourne District Nursing Society	1,682	250	1,932
St. Vincent's Hospital	6,480	1,208	7,688
Sanatorium for Consumptives, Echuca and Macedon	3,151	...	3,151
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1,786	234	2,020
Melbourne Dental Hospital	429	100	529
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	86	...	86
St. John Ambulance Association	425	150	575
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ... ..	...	275	275
Total distributed	269,395	11,272	280,667
Total collected	283,572	11,650	295,222

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

The Federal Parliament has, by an Act passed in 1908 and amending Acts, made provision for the payment of invalid and old-age pensions throughout Australia, the maximum rate of pension not to exceed 10s. per week. The persons to whom pensions may be paid and the principal conditions attaching to their payment are as under:—

Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

This part of the Act came into force on 1st July, 1909.

Persons.—Every man and woman who has attained the age of 65 years, or who, being permanently incapacitated for work, has attained the age of 60 years. In regard to women, however, by proclamation dated 18th November, 1910, the age was reduced from 65 years to 60 years as from that date.

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

Good character.

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

Net capital value of property not to exceed £310, but a deduction of £1 is made for every complete £10 by which the net value of property exceeds £50, except where the property includes the home of the pensioner and such home does not produce income, when £100 is exempted. In the case of husband and wife who are not living apart pursuant to any decree, judgment, order, or deed of separation, the net capital value of the property of each is taken to be half the total net capital value of the property of both. Income is similarly calculated. Pensioner's income, together with pension, not to be more than £52 per annum. Benefits received from friendly societies, trade unions, and other similar associations, are not to be considered income.

Any applicant who, in order to qualify for or obtain a pension, has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income is not eligible.

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

Aliens.

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

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

INVALID PENSIONS.

This part of the Act came into force by proclamation dated 18th November, 1910, and pensions may now be granted to the persons specified below, subject to the conditions mentioned :—

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

Conditions.—Residence in Australia continuously for at least five years, with the further proviso that the applicant must have become permanently incapacitated whilst in Australia.

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

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

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

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

Persons disqualified for invalid pensions are :—

Aliens.

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

Old-age pensioners in Australia.

The numbers of persons in each State of Australia who were receiving old-age pensions in 1911 and in June, 1912, were as follows:—

OLD-AGE PENSIONERS IN AUSTRALIA, 1911 AND 1912.

State.	Number of Pensioners.		Pensions Granted, &c., from Inauguration of Commonwealth System to 30th June, 1912.				Claims in Course, 30th June, 1912.	Number of Old-age Pensioners, 30th June, 1912.
	30th June, 1911.	30th December, 1911.	Granted.	Rejected.	Deaths.	Cancellations.		
Victoria ...	23,722	24,432	31,848	2,416	6,310	1,089	362	24,449
New South Wales ...	28,160	29,596	36,963	2,609	6,201	1,094	477	29,668
Queensland ...	9,894	10,145	12,929	1,420	1,986	507	101	10,436
South Australia ...	6,885	7,150	8,957	704	1,416	252	10	7,289
Western Australia ...	2,976	3,166	3,902	468	482	196	29	3,224
Tasmania ...	3,865	3,930	4,957	379	819	133	112	4,005
Australia ...	75,502	78,419	99,556	7,996	17,214	3,271	1,091	79,071

Invalid pensioners in Australia.

Invalid pensions were made available in Australia from 15th December, 1910, and the numbers granted on and after that date, which were in existence on 30th June, 1912, are as under:—

INVALID PENSIONERS IN AUSTRALIA, 30TH JUNE, 1912.

State.	From 15th December, 1910, to 30th June, 1912.				Claims in Course, 30th June, 1912.	Number of Invalid Pensioners, 30th June, 1912.
	Granted.	Rejected.	Deaths.	Cancellations.		
Victoria ...	3,641	910	421	58	125	3,162
New South Wales ...	5,585	856	539	219	161	4,827
Queensland ...	1,134	370	116	29	42	989
South Australia ...	807	153	79	21	17	707
Western Australia ...	407	139	25	8	40	374
Tasmania ...	782	137	65	13	60	704
Australia ...	12,356	2,565	1,245	348	445	10,763

Cost of pensions, 1911-12.

During the financial year ended 30th June, 1912, the expenditure for invalid and old-age pensions in Australia amounted to £2,148,034, but the approximate liability on account of the 79,071 old-age and 10,763 invalid pensioners on the registers on 30th June, 1912, is £2,216,734, or an average per individual of £24 13s. 6d. per annum. The expenditure during the financial year 1912-13 will, it is anticipated, show a considerable increase on this amount.

The State system of old-age pensions came into force on 18th January, 1901, and the highest number of pensioners was reached in November, 1901, when 16,300 were on the register. Alterations in the Act in the direction of compelling relatives, when in a position to do so, to support applicants for pensions had the effect of reducing the number to 10,732 in 1907. On 1st July, 1909, when the Federal Act came into operation, there were 12,368 old-age pensioners in Victoria. Thereafter the number rapidly increased, and on 30th June, 1912, it had reached a total of 24,449 (exclusive of invalid pensioners). The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year and the amount expended each year are as under :—

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA, 1901 TO 1912.

Financial Year.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
18th January to 30th June, 1901 (under State Act)	16,275	...	16,275	£ 129,338
1901-2	14,570	...	14,570	292,432
1902-3	12,417	...	12,417	215,973
1903-4	11,609	...	11,609	205,150
1904-5	11,209	...	11,209	200,464
1905-6	10,990	...	10,990	189,127
1906-7	10,732	...	10,732	187,793
1907-8	11,288	...	11,288	233,573
1908-9	12,368	...	12,368	270,827
1909-10 (under Federal Act)	20,218	...	20,218	470,656
1910-11 " " "	23,722	2,272	25,994	573,699
1911-12 " " "	24,449	3,162	27,611	672,593

The following table shows the estimated number of persons eligible to receive old-age pensions, viz., women aged 60 years and over and men aged 65 years and upwards, in Australia, the number receiving old-age pensions in 1912, and the proportion of the latter to the former :—

PERSONS ELIGIBLE AND THOSE RECEIVING OLD-AGE PENSIONS IN AUSTRALIA, 1912.

State.	Number of Persons Eligible to receive Old-age Pensions.			Number of Persons Receiving Old-age Pensions, on 30th June, 1912.	Percentage borne by Pensioners to those Eligible on an Age Basis.
	Women aged 60 Years and over.	Men aged 65 Years and over.	Total.		
Victoria	48,672	33,467	82,139	24,449	30
New South Wales	46,531	36,421	82,952	29,668	36
Queensland	14,172	13,319	27,491	10,436	38
South Australia	14,365	9,387	23,752	7,289	31
Western Australia	4,538	3,916	8,454	3,224	38
Tasmania	5,921	3,848	9,769	4,005	41
Australia	134,199	100,358	234,557	79,071	34

In proportion to the number of persons eligible to receive old-age pensions, the greatest number is being paid in Tasmania (41 per cent.), and the lowest number in Victoria (30 per cent.). The percentage for the whole Commonwealth is 34 per cent.

Cost of
State old-
age pension
schemes.

Victoria was the first State to provide old-age pensions, the Act making this provision having been passed in 1900, and the system having come into operation on 1st January, 1901. The amount paid in pensions by the State to the 30th June, 1909, was £1,924,677. The New South Wales Old-age Pensions Act operated from 1st August, 1901, and the cost to the State was £3,978,770. In Queensland, the State old-age pensions became payable from 1st July, 1908—a year prior to the enactment of the Commonwealth measure—and the total sum paid was £148,827.

Old-age
pensions
in New
Zealand.

The Dominion of New Zealand instituted the system of old-age pensions prior to any State of the Commonwealth, an Act which was passed on 1st November, 1898, having provided for the payment of a pension of £18 per annum, or 6s. 11d. per week, without contribution by the beneficiaries. This amount was increased to £26 per annum, or 10s. per week, from 1st September, 1905. A deduction is made of £1 per annum for each £1 of income above £34 a year, and of £1 for each £10 of property above £340, where such property constitutes a home, or above £50 in all other classes of property. In the case of a husband and wife the amount of joint income (including pension) is limited to £90. Every person aged 65 years and over is eligible for a pension, provided he has resided continuously in the Dominion for 25 years, and does not receive income in excess of £60 a year, nor possess property exceeding £260 in value. The pension age is reduced to 55 for females and to 60 for males where the applicant is the parent of two or more children under the age of 14, for the maintenance of whom he (or she) is responsible. An additional pension of £13 per annum is payable in such cases. The following statement shows the number of pensions in force, and the annual amount payable at the end of 1911:—

OLD-AGE PENSIONERS IN NEW ZEALAND, 31ST DECEMBER, 1911.

Exclusive of Maoris—

Number of old-age pensioners	...	...	...	16,000
Annual amount payable	...	...	...	£400,000
Estimated number of persons in the Dominion aged 65 years and upwards	...	...	...	48,500
Proportion of those eligible on an age basis who are receiving pensions	...	...	...	33 per cent.

Maoris—

Number of old-age pensioners	...	...	...	600
Annual amount payable	...	...	...	£15,000

From the initiation of the system in January, 1899, to 31st March, 1912, a sum of £3,150,404 had been expended on account of old-age pensions.

In 1911, an Act was passed by the New Zealand Parliament providing for the payment of pensions to widows with children born in New Zealand, according to the following scale:—

Widows' Pensions in New Zealand.

To a widow with one child under 14 years of age	...	£12 per annum.
" " two children " "	...	18 "
" " three " " "	...	24 "
" " more than three children "	...	30 "

A six months' residence in the Dominion prior to the birth of any child to whom the Act applies is necessary, and applicants require to be British subjects of good character. The rate of pension is subject to a deduction of £1 for every £1 of the annual income in excess of £30. Such annual income is not to include personal earnings of the applicant which, with the pension added, do not exceed £100. Property which produces no income or an income of less than 5 per cent. of its value is deemed to produce an income of at least 5 per cent. of such value, and such amount is included in the computation of the annual income.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

On 1st January, 1911, the registers of the Lunacy Department contained the names of 5,396 patients, who were distributed as follows:—In the Hospitals for the Insane, 4,766; in the Receiving House and Wards, 47; in the private licensed houses, 75; on trial leave, and boarded-out, 508 patients.

Lunacy Department.

During 1911, the admission rate was a heavy one, and no less than 817 cases were admitted to the Hospitals for the Insane; of this number, however, 388 were sent on from the Receiving House and Wards. There were 83 direct admissions to the private licensed houses, and 650 patients were received primarily into the Receiving Houses and Wards. The utility of these special receiving institutions may be gauged by the fact that out of 650 admissions, 240 cases made good recoveries, and 22 other cases improved to such an extent that they were able to be sent out to the care of their friends. This gives a recovery rate for the Receiving Institutions of 37 per cent. In spite of these good Receiving House results, the total number of cases admitted to the institutions of the Lunacy Department was as high as 1,162.

At the end of the year, the numbers of insane persons known to the Department were as follows:—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT,
31ST DECEMBER, 1911.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
In the State Hospitals for the Insane ..	2,442	2,384	4,826
Boarded-out and on trial leave from the State Hospitals for the Insane	239	275	514
In the Private Licensed Houses	16	66	82
Out on trial from private Licensed Houses ..	9	18	27
Receiving Houses and Receiving Wards ..	19	17	36
Total	2,725	2,760	5,485

By comparison with the previous year, it will be seen that the numbers in the Hospitals for the Insane have been increased by 99, *i.e.*, 31 less than the increment for the previous year, and the total increase of cases known to the Department for the year is 89, as against a total of 155 in the previous year. This result has been achieved by an improved recovery rate and an increase in the number of those who are out on trial leave.

The proportion of the insane to the total population is 1 in 245.5.

Superficially, it would seem that insanity in Victoria is very greatly on the increase; actually, this is not so, for the percentage of admissions to the population is steadily falling, and this is especially the case when first admissions, *i.e.*, persons suffering chiefly from first attacks of insanity, are considered. Additional proof of this statement is afforded by the fact that the mean age of those patients already in the asylums is rising, proving that it is the accumulation of uncured cases that is causing the aggregate figures to appear so large.

The number of patients in the Hospitals for the Insane in the different Australian States and New Zealand, and their proportion to the total population of each State on 31st December, 1910, were as follows:—

NUMBER OF INSANE PERSONS IN STATES.

State or Dominion.	Number of Insane on 31st December, 1910.	
	Total.	Per 100,000 of Population.
Victoria	5,288	404
Queensland	2,267	378
New South Wales	6,148	375
New Zealand	3,628	362
Western Australia	793	286
Tasmania	505	261
South Australia	1,055	257

The high proportion of insane persons in Victoria as compared with other States is accounted for by the much larger proportion of old persons contained in the population, and also by the more extensive use of the trial leave clause, which causes names to be retained much longer on the registers of the asylums than is the case in other parts of Australia.

The proportionate number of recoveries of patients in the Victorian Hospitals for the Insane in 1910 was below the average of the twenty years ended with 1910, the ratio in that year being 2,207 per 10,000 admitted, as compared with an average of 3,515 in the period stated. The proportions in the various Australian States for the year 1910 are as follows:—

Recoveries of insane persons in Australia, 1910.

RECOVERIES.

	Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.		Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.
South Australia ...	5,519	Western Australia ...	4,717
Tasmania ...	4,789	New South Wales ...	3,833
Queensland ...	4,730	Victoria ...	2,207

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

The mortality of patients was higher in Western Australia in 1910 than in any of the other States. This will be seen from the following figures:—

Deaths of insane persons in Australia and New Zealand.

DEATHS.

	Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.		Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.
Western Australia ...	1,209	Queensland ...	743
South Australia ...	880	New South Wales ...	727
New Zealand ...	791	Tasmania ...	659
Victoria ...	780		

At the census of 1911 there were 1,102 blind persons (595 males and 507 females) enumerated in the State. This is an increase of 20 compared with ten years previously. There was 1 blind person in every 1,193 of mixed sexes, or 1 blind male in every 1,102 males, and 1 blind female in every 1,302 females. Deaf mutes numbered 535 (280 males and 255 females) in 1911, compared with 410 in 1901. There was thus 1 deaf mute in every 2,459 of the total population, or 1 in 2,341 of the males and 1 in 2,588 of the females.

Blind and deaf and dumb persons in Victoria.

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected
and
reformatory
children.

There were at the end of 1911 three industrial and eleven reformatory schools in the State. Two of these (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing depôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1911, numbered 7,181—7,015 neglected and 166 reformatory children—and there were 40 others free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years:—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1907 TO 1911.

Year.		NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Neglected Children
		Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1907	...	3,358	740	777	127	6	5,008
1908	...	3,711	710	748	306	2	5,477
1909	...	4,247	694	728	332	6	6,007
1910	...	4,875	710	715	343	13	6,656
1911	...	5,316	694	653	344	8	7,015

Year.		NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Reformatory Children.
		In Reformatory Schools.	Placed with Relatives.	Maintaining themselves at Service.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1907	...	146	18	39	...	1	204
1908	...	161	18	42	...	5	226
1909	...	133	37	36	1	7	214
1910	...	122	27	47	2	6	204
1911	...	97	29	34	1	5	166

Children
boarded
out, &c.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send reports to the Department as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 5s. per week for each child. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1911 were as follows:—

Children committed to the care of the State, 1911.

CHILDREN COMMITTED TO THE CARE OF THE STATE, 1911.

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blamable—	
Father	495
Mother	21
Both parents	32
Total	548
Blameless—	
Father dead and mother poor, but of good character	448
" " " an invalid	1
" " " in hospital	2
" " " in a lunatic asylum	1
" an invalid and mother poor	104
" blind and mother poor	1
" in hospital and mother poor	32
" poor and mother dead	16
" unknown and mother poor	26
" " " " in hospital	1
" " " " dead	1
" " " " in a lunatic asylum	4
" " " " an imbecile	1
" in a lunatic asylum and mother poor	31
Parents alive and of good character, but too poor to support their children	78
Both parents dead	19
Total	766
Total number of children placed under control during the year	1,314

The number of children placed under care in 1911, viz., 1,314, was 113 less than in the previous year, when the number was the largest on record. The great increase in the wards of the State during the last four years is largely due to the fact that many children were during these years taken as wards and returned to their mothers, the number of such in 1911 being 747, as compared with 750 in the previous year, 668 in 1909, and 620 in 1908. It is also due in part to the operation of the Infant Life Protection Act, 241 children in 1911 having come directly under the control of the Department through this legislative act, apart from those that are supervised and inspected by the officers of the Neglected Children's Department, but are maintained by their relatives.

The Governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1911 to £87,172, and that for reformatory school children to £3,562; the expenses of administration amounted to £7,149, making a total gross expenditure of £97,883. A sum of

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

£4,070 was received from parents for maintenance, and £32 from other sources, making the net expenditure £93,781. The average number of neglected children under supervision during the year was 6,781; of this total, 5,267 were maintained in foster homes at an average annual cost per head to the State of £15 7s., 98 were in Government receiving depôts at £39 11s. 7d. per head, and 69 were in private industrial schools at a cost of £14 7s. 6d. per head; 653 were at service earning their own living, and 694 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The average number of reformatory wards under supervision during the year was 176. Of this number 113 were maintained in private schools at an average annual cost per head of £31 10s. 5d., 34 were in service earning their own living, and 29 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The average net cost per head of neglected and reformatory school children who were maintained by the State during the year was £16 18s. 10d.

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1890 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference if found unfitted for such care to the control of the Department for Neglected Children. The following return shows the societies and persons registered under the provisions of this part of the Act, and gives particulars respecting the children under their care during 1911:—

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

Name of Society or Person.	Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.10.	Admissions during 1911.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.11.
		Court Commitals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Burwood Boys' Home	57	..	18	2	77
Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society	104	4	2	19	98
Clifden Home, Wedderburn ..	96	..	1	..	81
Gordon Institute, Melbourne ..	134	9	9	32	131
Latrobe-street Ragged School Mission	153	1	1	150	151
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East	88	..	..	13	66
Methodist Homes for Children ..	472	4	10	37	413
Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East	42	2	..	3	45
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society	292	3	9	11	283
Presbyterian Rescue Home, Elsternwick	17	2	2	..	18
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	174	2	..	63	156
Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn	64	..	..	50	39
Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society	404	9	5	52	339
Total	2,097	36	57	432	1,897

The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies in 1911 reached the large total of 10,443, viz., 7,221 under the control of the Neglected Children's Department, 1,897 under the supervision of societies registered under Part III. of the Neglected Children's Act, and 1,325 in Orphan Asylums.

Total number of neglected and orphan children.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

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

Infant Life Protection Act.

The administration of the Act is removed from the Chief Commissioner of Police to the Department for Neglected Children, and power is given to establish maternity homes, infant asylums, and cottage homes. No male person is eligible to be registered as the occupier of a registered house. Male or female inspectors are to be appointed, who may enter and inspect any house registered under the Act, inspect any infant in the house, and examine the registered occupier as to the proper care and maintenance of the infants, and give any necessary advice or directions. The age of children who may be dealt with under the Act is raised from 2 to 5 years. For refusing to admit or obstructing an inspector, or for refusing to answer or answering falsely any questions put by the inspector, a penalty of £10 may be imposed.

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

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

The Secretary may cancel the registration, and take charge of children from a registered home, and if they are not removed from his care within a month they become wards of the Department; and

the Secretary shall then determine, by writing, what amount, not exceeding 12s. per week, the parents or guardians are to pay towards each child's maintenance.

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

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

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

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

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

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

No child dying under 5 years of age who at the time of death, or within two months previously, was in charge of a registered person, or, if illegitimate, who has died in the house of such a person, can be buried without the authority of a coroner or justice.

It is unlawful for a registrar of births and deaths to give an undertaker or other person a certificate of the registration of the death of a child under the age of 5 years, to whom the provisions of this Act apply, unless authorized by a coroner or a justice.

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

On 31st December, 1911, there were 388 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of the Act, 183 being under 1 year of age and 205 between 1 and 5 years of age. The deaths during the year numbered 38. In addition, 236 children became wards of the Neglected Children's Department, by the operation of Section 9, 4 by the operation of Section 11, and 1 by the operation of Section 17 of the Act. Ninety-seven cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Six female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

An examination of the vital statistics of the State shows that there is pressing need for this Act for the repression of criminal negligence in the treatment of infants. In 1911 the illegitimate births numbered 1,964, and the deaths of illegitimate children under 1 year were 316, being equal to a rate of 16.09 deaths for 100 births, as compared with 6.29 for legitimate children under 1 year of age. The mortality rate of illegitimate infants was thus nearly three times as great as that of children born in wedlock, which proportion coincides with the experience of all recent years.

TRAINING SHIP "JOHN MURRAY."

The *Loch Ryan*, a barque of 1,207 tons register, was purchased by the Government from the Glasgow Shipping Company for £3,000 in November, 1909, for the purpose of training boys for the Australian Navy, the mercantile marine, and kindred occupations. The name of the ship was altered to *John Murray*. The age at which boys are received is not less than 12 nor more than 16 years, and under no circumstances are boys who have been convicted of felony or misdemeanour admitted. The sum of 10s. per week is charged for the maintenance of the boys on the ship, but the charge may be remitted by the committee in the case of parents who are unable to pay that or any lesser amount. Applications are dealt with in the order of their receipt and without regard to any consideration of payment. A parent or guardian of a boy must transfer the guardianship to the Captain-Superintendent.

Training
ship *John
Murray*.

The ship is managed by a committee of seven, which was appointed on 23rd December, 1909, and of which the Hon. J. A. Boyd is the chairman. The first meeting of the committee was held on 13th January, 1910, when it was decided to convert the ship from a

cargo-carrier into a training ship. Estimates of the cost of conversion amounting to £6,500 were prepared, and the work was immediately proceeded with.

The alterations included the laying of two new decks and the renewing of the upper deck; cutting 50 port holes in the 'tween decks; removing the deck house; stripping all the old fittings and fitting new quarters for the officers and crew; constructing a galley, store-rooms, lavatories, bath-rooms, and lockers; duplicating the water supply; installing electric light, ventilating apparatus, and hot and cold water circulation; providing mess accommodation for 200 boys as well as beds and blankets, table and galley utensils; also the purchase of new and the renovation of old boats. The ship was docked and thoroughly cleaned and painted. Since the vessel has been in commission it has been stripped of all running and standing gear and refitted, this work providing instruction for the boys.

The ceremony of declaring the ship open for the training of boys was performed by Lady Gibson-Carmichael on 7th September, 1910. The ship has made several cruises in the bay, and has performed the feat of sailing through the Hopetoun Channel to Geelong and back again without a tug. This has not been done by any other ship, although a vessel did sail through one way. The channel is 2 miles long and about 200 feet wide. The vessel sailed for Sydney on 8th September, 1911, the voyage extending over two months. The passage from Port Phillip Heads to Sydney Heads took four and a half days, and the return journey ten days. During the latter trip, the vessel visited Western Port Bay, and remained there four days. She behaved well, and thoroughly proved her seaworthiness in a heavy gale experienced off Gabo Island, which lasted twenty hours.

On 30th June, 1912, there were 107 boys on board, who were doing well. During the year ended on that date, 67 boys were discharged. Of these, 9 had completed their term of service, 9 were trained sufficiently to enable them to earn their living at sea, 40 were released at their parents' request, 1 died, 1 was invalided, and 7 deserted. A tendency developed during the year for boys to be taken from the ship after they had passed their fourteenth year by their parents, who were no longer liable to be fined for truancy, seeing that the boys had passed the school age. A writ of *habeas corpus* was issued against the Chairman and Captain-Superintendent of the ship by the father of a trainee who had only been three weeks on board. Mr. Justice Hodges determined that the committee had no power as the law stood to hold the boy against the parent's wish, therefore, he should be released. This has greatly interfered with the good order and discipline of the ship, and the Government has determined to cure the evil by passing legislation legalizing the agreements entered into by the parents with the committee.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine, at Creswick, caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on this disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives. A fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances, and on 31st December, 1911, there remained seven widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. At that date the amount at credit was £15,444, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street, £2,900 was in Government debentures, £467 in bank deposit receipts, and £77 cash in hand.

Victorian Mining Accident Relief Fund.

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND.

A provision of the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1909* (No. 2240) related to the constitution of a Fund to be called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund, to which every person employed in a coal mine is compelled to contribute 4½d. per week, the mine-owners paying an amount equal to one-half of that deducted from the miners' wages, and the Government of Victoria a sum equal to the payment by the owners. The Board held its first meeting on 4th April, 1910, and decided that the employés' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at nine collieries, their principal functions being to collect contributions, and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances. For the year ended 31st December, 1911, the total revenue was £2,415—miners' payments amounting to £906, interest to £53, and fines, &c., to £15 and the balance coming equally from the mine-owners (£721) and the Government (£720). The expenditure included £165 paid in allowances and £287 cost of administration. The accumulated funds amounted to £2,816—£2,750 invested in 3½ per cent. Government stock, and £66 bank balance. Relief was given in 315 non-fatal cases. In one of these, the disablement has been declared a permanent one, and the four children of the injured miner are receiving aid from the fund. No fatal accident occurred during the year.

Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund.

BENDIGO MINERS' ASSOCIATION—THE WATSON FUND.

About the middle of the year 1889 the idea suggested itself to Mr. J. B. Watson of doing something for the permanently injured miners of the Bendigo District. Immediately after the occurrence of a severe mining accident he sent a letter to the Miners' Association with an offer to contribute £1,500, at the rate of £100 per year unconditionally, or to give £150 per annum for 10 years, if the Association would contribute a like amount. His proposal was brought under the notice of the Committee of Management, with the

The Watson Sustainment Fund

result that a Select Committee was appointed to draw up a report, and at the same time to formulate a scheme. It was thought that the sum of money was not sufficient to meet the liability that would be likely to occur. It was ultimately decided to recommend the members to accept Mr. Watson's offer of £150 for 10 years, and at the same time to cover it with the sum of £200 per year, to be made by levy on all members. This scheme was laid before Mr. Watson and the members, and accepted by both parties, and it was arranged that all gifts and donations that could be procured should be credited to a fund to be known as the Watson Sustainment Fund. It was decided that the collections of 1890 should be reserved strictly for revenue purposes, and that the benefits should not come into full operation until 1891, so as to give the fund a good start, and place it on a sure foundation. Payments were accordingly first made in 1891, at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made, as necessity arose.

The following return shows the receipts and expenditure, from the inception of the fund:—

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON
SUSTENTATION FUND.

Year.	Relieved during the Year.	On Funds at end of Year.	Deaths during the Year.	Receipts.		
				From the Founder, J. B. Watson.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.
				£	£	£
1890 ...	...	...	...	150	1,467	1,617
1891 ...	*	11	*	150	56	206
1892 ...	*	26	*	150	503	653
1893 ...	*	44	*	150	452	602
1894 ...	*	43	*	150	790	940
1895 ...	43	38	5	150	734	884
1896 ...	57	48	9	150	543	693
1897 ...	56	52	4	150	1,680	1,830
1898 ...	57	48	9	150	944	1,094
1899 ...	56	41	15	150	524	674
1900 ...	54	47	7	...	641	641
1901 ...	66	48	18	...	591	591
1902 ...	52	41	11	...	549	549
1903 ...	50	43	7	...	742	742
1904 ...	58	48	10	...	1,049	1,049
1905 ...	60	40	20	...	875	875
1906 ...	76	40	36	...	1,235	1,235
1907 ...	68	35	33	...	1,131	1,131
1908 ...	56	40	16	...	735	735
1909 ...	50	35	15	...	1,065	1,065
1910 ...	66	42	24	...	911	911
1911 ...	80	48	32	...	652	652
Total ...	...	...	271	1,500	17,869	19,369

* Particulars not available.

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

Expenditure.

Year.	Sick Pay.	Donations to Members and Wives and Families of Deceased Members.	Administration.	Total Expenditure.	Balance at End of Year.
	£	£	£	£	£
1890 ...	...	...	...	...	1,617
1891 ...	104	87	6	197	1,626
1892 ...	330	150	3	488	1,791
1893 ...	571	116	9	696	1,697
1894 ...	578	64	6	648	1,989
1895 ...	777	98	7	882	1,991
1896 ...	845	107	34	986	1,698
1897 ...	946	121	17	1,084	2,444
1898 ...	917	99	10	1,026	2,512
1899 ...	873	61	7	941	2,245
1900 ...	973	65	11	1,049	1,837
1901 ...	765	140	9	914	1,514
1902 ...	842	28	11	881	1,182
1903 ...	827	39	20	886	1,038
1904 ...	854	114	24	992	1,095
1905 ...	822	80	43	945	1,025
1906 ...	767	97	29	893	1,367
1907 ...	715	96	27	838	1,660
1908 ...	716	135	20	871	1,524
1909 ...	768	129	27	924	1,665
1910 ...	811	80	92	983	1,593
1911 ...	744	32	31	807	1,438
Total ...	15,545	1,938	448	17,931	—

QUEEN'S FUND.

This fund was inaugurated in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1911-12 was 71, to whom £480 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £68. The accumulated fund on 20th June, 1912, was £14,400.

Queen's Fund.

STATE ADVERTISING AND INTELLIGENCE BUREAU.

The State Advertising and Intelligence Bureau is attached to the Department of Lands and Survey. It deals with the whole matter of immigration and overseas advertising, prepares pamphlets, booklets, posters, guides, and lectures; supplies lantern slides, photographs, &c.; arranges displays at exhibitions; and generally advertises the State and its resources. It is authorized to make arrangements with persons in Victoria to nominate friends and relations in

State Advertising Bureau.

Great Britain for reduced passages, costing £8 for each adult, and for children half that amount. In special cases the fares may be only £3 per adult and proportionately less for children (see statement below). It principally seeks from Great Britain and other countries agriculturists and rural workers and it assists in finding employment for the latter, as well as in placing British lads on approved farms. Farmers and experienced farm labourers from Great Britain are charged £6 for third-class passages. Inexperienced farm labourers obtain passages at a fare of £8. Domestic servants are also being sought, and these are placed in situations by the Bureau on arrival. Third-class passages are granted to domestic servants for £3. Officers of the Intelligence Bureau (including a matron) meet every boat, and advise new arrivals, in some cases arranging for temporary accommodation and providing facilities for the inspection of lands available for settlement.

In the following steam-ship lines reduced third-class passages are obtainable from the United Kingdom to Melbourne at the rates mentioned below :—

Aberdeen Line, *viâ* the Cape, from London or Plymouth.

Houlder Line, *viâ* the Cape, from Liverpool.

Lund's Blue Anchor Line, *viâ* the Cape, from London.

Orient Royal Mail Line, *viâ* the Suez Canal, from London.

Open berths (Orient Company), £12 per adult.

More than four berths in cabin (Aberdeen, Houlder, and Lund lines), £12 per adult.

Berth in four-berth cabin, ~~£~~4 per adult.

Berth in two-berth cabin, £15 per adult.

Should a berth of more than £12 in value be required, the amount in excess must be paid at the time of application.

In the case of nominated passages from the United Kingdom, the adult passage money is £12, and, except where the nominated passengers are the wife and children of the nominator, a deposit of at least one-third (£4) has to be lodged by the nominator. The balance is payable in monthly instalments extending over twelve

months. After the immigrant has satisfied the Minister that he or she is a permanent resident of the State, a rebate of £4 per adult passage may be made, and a *pro ratâ* rebate on other than adult fares. Where the nominees are the wife and child of the nominator a rebate of £9 per adult passage may be made in respect of the females, and of £6 per adult in the case of the males. *Pro ratâ* rebates on the £9 adult basis are allowed for all nominated children in the family under 12 years, whether males or females.

Mr. F. T. A. Fricke, late Officer in Charge of the Lands Department Inquiry Office, Melbourne, has been appointed to represent Victoria as Land Settlement Agent in North America. His address is c/o General Delivery, G.P.O., San Francisco, U.S.A. He exercises supervision and control over the American agents who have been appointed in San Francisco, and in Vancouver, British Columbia. Arrangements have also been made for assisted passages between these countries and Victoria, *per* the Union Steam-ship Company of New Zealand and the Oceanic Steam-ship Coy. Ltd. American and Canadian immigrants may be granted an allowance of £6 per adult passage, with proportionate contribution for children, on settling as farmers on the Crown lands or on taking up farming employment in Victoria. Nominated passages may also be obtained from America and Canada under similar residence conditions to those which obtain for these passages from the United Kingdom. The deposit necessary is a sum equal to the full fare less the amount of the Government contribution, in these cases £5 per adult fare and a proportionate amount for children.

The rates of passage money from the United States and Canada are as follows:—

From San Francisco, U.S.A. (Transhipping at Wellington, New Zealand).		From Vancouver, B.C. (Transhipping at Sydney, New South Wales).	
Class.	Full Fare.	Class.	Full Fare.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
First (<i>via</i> Sydney) Single ...	41 16 0	First Single ...	43 9 4
Second Single ...	26 16 0	Second Single ...	25 15 2
Third Single ...	17 0 0	Third Single ...	17 13 4

Children over 6 years and not over 12 years—half fare; over 2 years and not over six—quarter fare. One child under 2 years is carried free.

Nomination and guarantee forms in all cases have to be filled in and returned to the Intelligence Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne, with the necessary deposit, after which all arrangements are made by the bureau for the passages. Communications should be addressed to "The Officer in Charge, Advertising and Intelligence Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne."

**Maternity
allowance.**

An Act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of every child born in the Commonwealth, no additional sum to be paid for twins. The payment is made in respect of children born on and after 10th October, 1912. When the birth of a child is registered the person effecting the registration can obtain an order for £5 in favour of the mother, and on this being presented at an old-age pension office a money order is sent to the mother, or to the person authorized by her in writing to receive it. No receipt is required by the Treasurer. Application must be made within three months after date of birth. The allowance is payable to women who are inhabitants of the Commonwealth, or who intend to settle therein, but not to Asiatics or aboriginal natives of Australia, Papua, or the islands of the Pacific. The penalty for false representation is a fine of £100, or one year's imprisonment.
