

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and the Legislative Council of Victoria. 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 of 31 members and a Convocation consisting of all graduates.

Payment to the University of an annual endowment of £45,000 from 1st July, 1923, was provided for in the *University Act 1923*. Provision was also made in this Act for an additional annual grant of £8,500 for special purposes for a period of ten years commencing on 1st July, 1923. This additional grant was not paid during 1933-34, but under the provisions of the *University (Grant) Act 1933*, the grant was reduced to £6,000 and was made payable annually as from 1st July, 1934. Other annual grants are £6,500 for a School of Agriculture, £3,500 for a Veterinary School, and £2,500 for a Chair of Obstetrics. Under the provisions of financial emergency legislation, these grants were reduced by 20 per cent. in each year of the quinquennium 1931-32—1935-36. That rate of reduction was continued in 1936-37, except that the annual endowment was reduced by 10 per cent. in that year and the grant for a Veterinary School was renewed for a further period of five years at a fixed sum of £3,300. In addition to grants from the Government, the council derives income from fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates and diplomas.

A University Students Loan Fund was established by Act of Parliament in 1923 when a transfer of £10,000 to it from the Assurance Fund under the *Transfer of Land Act* was authorized. In addition, a grant of £10,000 was made to the Fund from the Consolidated Revenue. The Fund is administered by a special committee of three members. Each student applying for a loan must satisfy the committee that he is possessed of ability, and that without assistance from the Fund he will be unable to continue the University course. It is provided that interest at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum shall be charged on all advances, and that the amount lent to any one student in any year shall not exceed £100.

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. The investments at present held as the result of private benefactions amount to £621,221. In addition, gifts, which have been spent on buildings and equipment, amount to £69,407.

The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during December, 1936, and February, 1937 :—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, DECEMBER, 1936, AND FEBRUARY, 1937.

Examination.	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Intermediate	3,441	1,755	51·00
Leaving	1,902	1,098	57·72
Candidates entered for Certificates by Headmasters of Approved Schools—			
Intermediate	2,217	1,529	68·96
Leaving	824	509	61·77
Total—			
Intermediate	5,658	3,284	58·04
Leaving	2,726	1,607	58·95

Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the five years 1932-1936 was as follows :—1932, 693 ; 1933 697 ; 1934, 672 ; 1935, 686 ; and 1936, 670. The number of degrees taken in 1936 was 532, all of which were direct, as against an average of 491 per annum for the preceding five years. During those five years all the degrees obtained were direct and none *ad eundem*. Of the total of 15,502 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 2,630 have been conferred on women.

Of the 3,451 students who attended lectures in 1936, 971 were students in Arts, Education, and Journalism, 297 in Laws, 137 in Engineering, 678 in Medicine, 379 in Science, 241 in Music, 91 in Dental Science, 480 in Commerce, 52 in Agriculture, 47 in Architecture, 2 in Veterinary Science, 17 in Public Administration, 7 in Medical Post-graduate Diplomas, and 52 were doing Science Research Work.

University
finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1936, is given below:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1936.

Receipts.		Expenditure.	
	£		£
Government Grants—		Salaries	141,589
General Account ..	38,250	Examiners' Fees	8,458
Other	18,700	Examination Expenses ..	5,767
Bequests and Donations ..	10,115	Fellowships, Scholarships, &c.	8,014
Fees—		Apparatus	12,544
Lecture	63,682	Books and Periodicals ..	3,792
Examination, &c. ..	39,859	Printing and Stationery ..	3,573
Interest and Dividends ..	31,789	Buildings and Grounds ..	16,479
Other Receipts	39,423	All other	36,943
Total	241,818	Total	237,159

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The Trinity, Ormond, Queen's, and Newman Colleges are affiliated with the University. These colleges were established by the Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches of Victoria respectively.

Information relating to the foundation and progress of these four colleges is given in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

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 recognize the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University
Extension.

Tutorial Classes organized by the Workers' Educational Association of Victoria are conducted in the city, suburbs, and country by the University Extension Board. In addition to these classes the Board has inaugurated a system of advice by correspondence on social and cultural subjects for the benefit of country students. This advice is not intended for those seeking to qualify for degrees. Its purpose is rather to cultivate knowledge of such subjects as will elevate the mind and fit the student the better to discharge the social functions of his daily life and citizenship.

College of
Dentistry and
Pharmacy.

Particulars relating to the Australian College of Dentistry and the Melbourne College of Pharmacy are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 to 519.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The
educational
system of
Victoria.

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.

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 of which must be before, and two after, mid-day.

In December, 1910, an Act of Parliament of a most comprehensive and far-reaching character was passed. It marked a distinctive epoch in the history of education in Victoria, and laid the foundation of a complete national system from the infants' school to the highest educational institutions in the State.

Free
subjects.

The following are the subjects in which instruction is free:—English (literature, reading, recitation, spelling, writing, composition, grammar), mathematics (arithmetic, elementary algebra, practical geometry), nature knowledge (geography, general science, nature-study), health, history and civics, manual work (art, needlework, woodwork, and other forms of handwork such as modelling in clay or plasticine, paper folding and paper cutting, or brush drawing, or weaving with some material other than paper, for example, raffia), music, and, where practicable, rural science or horticulture for boys, cookery and domestic arts for girls, physical training, and swimming. Pupils buy their own books and material. Provision, however, is made for a free supply of books and material in necessitous cases.

Compulsory
Clauses.

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 school on every school half-day in each week. If they fail to make a child attend as provided they 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. Attendance officers are appointed for the purpose of ensuring compliance with these compulsory provisions

Conveyance allowance.

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. Allowances are also granted in necessitous cases where children are conveyed more than four miles to school.

Correspondence tuition.

In May, 1914, there was inaugurated in Victoria the system of correspondence tuition for children in remote districts. Sets of graded exercises are sent out fortnightly and subsequently returned to the Centre for correction. All the subjects of the course of study are thus taught, and with most successful results. Many children have reached the standard of the Intermediate Certificate without having any teaching except that given by post. For some years this tuition has been extended to include crippled and invalid children as well as children in remote districts. The total number enrolled for correspondence tuition in July, 1937, was 3,171 (Primary 904, Secondary 2,267).

School Committees.

Under Act No. 2301, now incorporated in the *Education Act 1928*, No. 3671, provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school. A statement of the main duties of these committees is given in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 199. The movement resulting in the formation of Mothers' Clubs has assumed great importance. The school committees and clubs have been responsible for raising many thousands of pounds for school improvement. Advisory Councils take the place of School Committees in Girls' Schools and High Schools.

Special schools.

Special schools established for those for whom the ordinary school cannot provide include the Talbot School for Epileptics, the school for the blind, the school for the deaf and dumb, five schools for the feeble-minded (three residential) a school for child inmates of the Austin Hospital for Cancer and Chronic Diseases, a school for the inmates of the Convalescent Home of the Children's Hospital, the Children's Welfare Department Schools, the school for youthful prisoners in Pentridge Gaol, and a school for young constables at the Police Depot.

Woodwork and Cookery Centres and other activities.

On 30th June, 1936, there were in operation 84 woodwork centres, having an attendance of 8,920 boys; and 57 cookery centres (apart from those at Girls' Schools) with an attendance of 3,713 girls; at the same date in 1935, 8,375 boys were attending 82 woodwork centres, 3,526 girls were attending 61 cookery centres. Physical training is taught in all schools and field sports have been organized and encouraged as

a successful adjunct to education. Instruction in swimming and life-saving methods is given at schools that have the necessary facilities. For the purpose of developing thrift and a spirit of social service in children, the Department fosters such activities as School Savings Banks, Junior Red Cross, Junior Safety Councils, &c.

At 30th June, 1937, there were 198,855 depositors in School Savings Banks with £291,319 4s. 11d. to their credit.

Patriotic Fund. During the Great War a sum of £440,000 was raised for the Education Department War Relief Fund. Particulars are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 333 and 334. The fund was closed in 1920. At the end of 1922, the balance of the fund, £84,910, was transferred to a body of seven trustees, who were empowered to expend the money for the benefit of seriously disabled soldiers and their dependants. To the 30th June, 1937, the following disbursements had been made:—£64,489 to alleviate distress, £19,511 under the housing scheme, and £14,491 granted on loan. On 30th June, 1937, there was a sum of £19,000 invested, and £321 to the credit of the general account.

Free Kindergarten Union. At 30th June, 1937, there were 32 kindergarten centres affiliated with the union in which 2,134 children below school age were enrolled. The movement receives an annual subsidy from the Education Department. The amount allotted for the year 1936-37 was £2,250.

School Forestry and Horticulture. A scheme for the utilization of waste lands by the establishment of school plantations of hardwood and softwood trees was inaugurated in 1923. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. Up to 30th June, 1937, there were established 344 of these school plantations, with an area of 3,100 acres. Of this area 1,476 acres have been planted. During the past planting season 58,500 trees were planted. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to pupils and teachers. The Society has established a nursery from which many thousands of packets of seeds, seedlings and shrubs are distributed annually to the schools throughout the State.

Young Farmers' Clubs. These have been established to interest pupils and young people generally in the agricultural life of the community. They are controlled by local committees of experts under the leadership of the head teacher of the school concerned. In the development of these clubs connected with schools, the Education Department has the co-operation of the Department of Agriculture, the Royal Agricultural Society, and the Railways Department. On the 30th June, 1937, more than 300 clubs were in operation.

Medical Inspection.

Medical Inspection was established in 1909. The present staff consists of seven full-time medical officers; in addition some assistance is given by two district health officers, who examine some of the children in their districts in conjunction with the duties performed by them as members of the staff of the Public Health Department.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE, 1936-37.

<i>School Medical Officers—</i>			
Children examined	..	..	34,162
Teachers	..	..	1,523
<i>School Dentists—</i>			
Children treated	..	..	33,442
<i>School Nurse—</i>			
Homes visited	..	..	6,238
<i>Total Cost</i>	..	..	£15,566

The work of school medical inspection continues to be carried out on the same principle as in previous years. In the elementary and technical schools visited each child is examined once in every three years, and in high schools once in two years. In each case the child is undressed to the waist, and then is given a thorough medical examination, including the testing of vision and hearing. During this overhaul special attention is given in any direction where the child seems to be below standard, so that the cause may be detected and remedied. It is necessary to discover whether the defect is due to medical, psychological, or educational causes, or to home conditions.

In spite of a comparatively small staff, the above programme has been well maintained. Nearly all country schools and some schools in the densely populated inner metropolitan area are visited once in three years; but still there is a large group of schools in the outer suburban better-class residential districts which have never yet been visited by a school medical officer.

To reach schools beyond railway communication, the medical officers depend on the transport generously provided by the school committees, and with their interest and co-operation in the work even the most distant country schools are reached.

The only school nurse renders invaluable service in visiting the homes of the children and in persuading parents to obtain treatment for the defects notified by the School Medical Officers.

Work of the School Nurse.

In 1921 the first two school dentists were appointed. **Dental Treatment.** The present staff consists of nine full time fully qualified dentists, each having the assistance of a dental attendant. Treatment is begun with children in the first year of their school life—provided that they are not more than seven years of age—by the dentist putting the child's mouth in good order. When required, treatment is repeated at least once a year until the child is twelve years of age. At this age all the temporary teeth have gone, and all the permanent teeth are erupted except the "wisdom" teeth. Thus each treated child leaves school "dentally fit," and, it is hoped, so educated and trained to the value of a good set of teeth and to the necessity of continued dental treatment.

In Melbourne the School Dentist works in a fully equipped dental centre, at which children from the various metropolitan schools are treated. To provincial districts the dentist and his attendant travel by train with their dental equipment in a travelling kit, and the most convenient school is used as a temporary centre at which children from the schools in the district attend.

Since 1925 work in rural districts has been made much easier for the dentist by the use of dental motor vans. With their use much time is saved in travelling from school to school. At present there are three dental motor vans in constant use in country work. These vans are fully equipped as dental surgeries, and give every facility for work without disturbing the school or classroom.

Teachers' College. At present Student Teachers are trained at the Melbourne Teachers' College for teaching in the various types of schools. Student Teachers who have passed the School Leaving Examination and the Intermediate Examination in Arithmetic or its equivalent may be admitted to the College, provided they have had at least one year's teaching experience and satisfactory reports have been received from their Inspectors regarding their teaching abilities.

Teachers' remuneration and classification. Under the provisions of the Public Service Acts teachers in elementary schools are divided into five classes. The annual salaries of males, excluding student teachers, range from £156 to £600, and those of females, excluding student teachers and sewing mistresses, range from £120 to £480.

Teachers in schools other than elementary are included in a Classified Roll for the Secondary Schools Division. This roll contains five classes for men and five classes for women. The number in each class is determined by the Public Service Commissioner after report from the Committee of Classifiers, Secondary Schools Division. Excluding rates for student teachers, which are the same as those for elementary schools, salaries for teachers on the Secondary Roll range from £192 to £650 per annum for men and from £168 to £528 per annum for women.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872 :—

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1936.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	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
1909-10	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1920 (31st December)	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1930	2,598	7,665	260,319	184,228	228,756
1931	2,590	7,613	261,673	187,443	232,286
1932	2,613	7,461	262,417	189,101	232,586
1933	2,609	7,371	264,697	190,977	234,174
1934	2,617	7,397	259,750	185,082	230,470
1935	2,606	7,353	256,564	182,442	226,728
1936	2,600	7,314	250,070	179,420	219,645

* Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 93 on 31st December, 1935, and 83 on 31st December, 1936.

The enrolment and attendance at State secondary schools are as follow :—

STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1935, AND 1936.

Class of School.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (Estimated).
Central Schools* and Classes ..	1935	28	4,314	3,668	4,153
	1936	29	4,797	4,102	4,634
Higher Elementary Schools ..	1935	45	4,358	3,403	3,751
	1936	45	4,012	3,135	3,938
Girls' Schools and Schools of Domestic Arts	1935	12	3,900	2,826	3,860
	1936	12	3,920	2,872	3,877
Junior Technical Schools† ..	1935	26	8,185	6,477	8,098
	1936	26	8,528	6,932	8,429
High Schools	1935	37	11,838	10,077	11,643
	1936	37	12,879	11,074	12,704
Total	1935	148	32,595	26,451	31,505
	1936	149	34,136	28,115	33,582

* Central Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Elementary Schools.

† Junior Technical Schools are worked in conjunction with Technical Schools.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number of children attending State Schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the years ended 31st December, 1935, and 1936:—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1935 AND 1936.

Class of School.	Year.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	Total.
Elementary Schools ..	1935	16,881	198,004	11,843	226,728
	1936	16,337	191,933	11,375	219,645
Central Schools ..	1935	..	3,097	1,056	4,153
	1936	..	3,666	968	4,634
Higher Elementary Schools ..	1935	..	2,048	1,703	3,751
	1936	..	2,217	1,721	3,938
Schools of Domestic Arts ..	1935	..	2,188	1,672	3,860
	1936	..	2,072	1,805	3,877
Junior Technical Schools ..	1935	..	3,608	4,490	8,098
	1936	..	3,638	4,791	8,429
High Schools ..	1935	..	4,848	6,795	11,643
	1936	..	5,814	7,520	12,704
Total ..	1935	16,881	213,793	27,559	258,233
	1936	16,337	208,710	28,180	253,227
Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrolments between the various types of schools ..	1935	16,881	212,797	26,952	256,630
	1936	16,234	206,140	27,777	250,151

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

Registration of teachers and schools. All schools (other than State schools) and teachers (other than State school teachers) are required to be registered by the Council of Public Education in accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act 1928*. The chief functions of the Council in this regard are to see that only qualified persons are employed in registered schools; and that such schools are adequately staffed.

Registered schools, 1935 and 1936. Information relating to registered schools as at 31st December shows the number of such schools as 518 in 1935, and 519 in 1936, whilst the number of instructors was 2,501 and 2,556, respectively. The number of individual scholars was 71,472 in 1935 and 73,084 in 1936. Particulars of registered schools for the years 1872 to 1928 appear in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 203, and for successive years in subsequent issues of the *Year-Book*.

Number and ages of pupils in registered schools.

The number and ages of pupils in attendance at registered schools are shown hereunder :—

NUMBER AND AGES OF PUPILS IN ATTENDANCE AT REGISTERED SCHOOLS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1935, AND 1936.

Age-groups.	Gross Enrolment.		Number of Individual Pupils (Estimated).	
	1935.	1936.	1935.	1936.
Under 6 years	6,340	6,208	5,838	5,709
Between 6 and 14 years	56,531	57,685	51,172	52,115
Above 14 years	15,143	15,900	14,462	15,260
Total	78,014	79,793	71,472	73,084

Percentage of scholars attending registered schools.

Of the total number of scholars attending schools in 1936, approximately 22 per cent. attended registered schools.

Ages of children in all schools.

After allowance has been made for duplicate enrolment caused by the attendance of children at both State schools and registered schools it is estimated that the number of individual children at school during the year was as follows :—

NUMBER (ESTIMATED) OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN UNDER INSTRUCTION AT SCHOOL DURING THE YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1935, AND 1936.

Age-groups.	1935.	1936.
Under 6 years of age	22,538	21,829
Between 6 and 14 years of age	261,254	257,212
Above 14 years of age	41,004	42,732
Total	324,796	321,773

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN STATE SCHOOLS.

At the request of the Joint Council for Religious Instruction in Day Schools, circulars were sent in 1923 by the Education Department to all head teachers requesting the furnishing of information in respect of religious instruction in State schools. A summary of the particulars supplied is given on page 371 of the *Year-Book*, 1928-29.

SECONDARY EDUCATION.

The purpose of the district high school and the higher elementary school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in elementary schools, and are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years at school a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their several careers in life. A statement appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, pages 204 and 205, showing the nature of these schools.

**Higher
Elementary
Schools and
Classes.**

There are 45 higher elementary schools. During the term ended 31st December, 1935, there was an average attendance at these schools of 3,403 pupils, of whom 1,705 were boys and 1,698 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1936, the attendance was 3,135, of whom 1,554 were boys and 1,581 were girls. In the higher elementary schools a four-years' course up to Intermediate Certificate is provided.

There were also 29 schools, principally in the metropolitan area, in which a two-years' preparatory course of secondary education was provided. These were attended by 3,668 pupils in 1935 and by 4,102 in 1936. Pupils from these schools have priority of admission to high schools.

**District
High Schools.**

There are 37 district high schools, three of which, in addition to providing other courses of secondary education, have school farms attached. In high schools, a six-years' course is provided. At the end of the fifth year pupils may obtain the Leaving Certificate which under certain conditions qualifies for Matriculation; at the end of the sixth year pupils may sit for Leaving Certificate Honours. During the term ended 31st December, 1935, there were in attendance at these schools 10,077 pupils, of whom 5,638 were boys and 4,439 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1936, the attendance was 11,074, of whom 6,106 were boys and 4,968 were girls.

**University
High School.**

For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers the institution now known as the University High School was opened in 1910, and the school was specially staffed by lecturers in methods of teaching in addition to the teachers of the ordinary form subjects of secondary schools. This is the official practising school for the work of the Diploma of Education of the University of Melbourne.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

The Minister of Public Instruction made available the following scholarships at the beginning of 1938 :—

- 200 Junior Scholarships.
- 44 Senior Scholarships.
- 50 Junior Technical Scholarships.
- 125 Senior Technical Scholarships.

Particulars of the age requirement of candidates, the periods of tenure, and the annual values of the scholarships are given on pages 369 and 370 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29.

The Minister also made available 75 free places in prescribed courses at the Melbourne University, 70 of which were open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools, and 5 to officers (other than teachers) in the employment of the Government of Victoria. Each year also there is a number of free places available for specially selected certificated teachers. The total number of such teachers must not exceed 60 in any one year.

In addition to the scholarships mentioned, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum or for transit up to £5 per annum, may be granted to enable pupils who show special capacity and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances, to attend district high schools, higher elementary schools, schools of domestic arts, central schools, central classes and technical schools. Free tuition is allowed also to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers attending district high schools or technical schools.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Technical schools.

The technical schools in the State, prior to 1910, were under the control of local school councils. Legislation passed in that year provided for all schools established since 1910 to be under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1937, was 28, of which 14 have been established since the passing of the 1910 Act. The gross enrolment for the year 1935 was 8,185 junior and 20,008 senior students, and for the year 1936 the number was 8,528 junior and 22,345 senior students.

Victorian technical schools provide practical laboratory and workshop training, together with instruction in the principles of Science and Art, as applied to industries. They also provide instruction in subjects connected with or preparatory to industrial, commercial, agricultural, mining, or domestic pursuits.

Full-time day and evening professional courses are provided in the various branches of engineering, mining, metallurgy, architecture, applied chemistry, applied physics, agriculture, art and applied art, commercial work, and institutional management. Full-time and part-time day and evening trade courses are also provided in trades connected with the electrical and mechanical engineering, motor, building, furniture, printing, bootmaking, and women's industries.

Associated with every technical school, with the exception of the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, is a full-time day junior technical or preparatory section, which provides for a three-years' course of study. Pupils who have completed the Sixth grade course in primary schools are eligible for admission. Prior to enrolment an entrance examination is held, which is open to pupils from all schools, both State and private.

The larger schools, such as the Melbourne Technical College (formerly Working Men's College), the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong), the Ballarat and Bendigo Schools of Mines, and the Footscray Technical School, are general purpose technical schools providing generally full day and evening professional courses and full-time and part-time day and evening trade and commercial courses. Specialized instruction is given at provincial centres, such as at Geelong, in wool-classing and sorting and architecture, and at Ballarat and Bendigo in chemistry and mining. The smaller country schools have full-time or part-time farm utility courses specially adapted to the needs of the local district, in addition to the junior preparatory and certain full-time and part-time senior courses associated with engineering, building, commerce, and art and applied art.

The technical schools for women's industries are the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Box Hill Technical School, and women's sections at Ballarat, Brighton, Castlemaine, Glenferrie (Swinburne Technical College), Maryborough, Prahran, Sale, Sunshine, Warrnambool, and Wonthaggi technical schools.

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject to £8 per course of subjects.

The following is a statement of the Government expenditure on each technical school during each of the five years ended 1936-37 :—

**GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS,
1932-33 TO 1936-37.**

Locality.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	2,185	2,658	2,324	2,778	2,980
Ballarat	14,801	13,723	14,075	14,997	16,209
Bendigo	9,666	10,312	10,318	10,804	11,694
Box Hill	3,858	4,303	4,515	11,624	6,205
Brighton	10,522	10,991	11,141	12,487	13,586
Brunswick	7,736	7,836	8,478	10,200	12,596
Castlemaine	4,311	4,662	4,448	4,936	5,440
Caulfield	9,572	9,228	11,059	12,762	14,100
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy	4,949	5,011	6,508	6,459	6,699
Collingwood	14,765	15,946	17,313	19,692	21,643
Daylesford	2,442	2,436	2,480	2,507	2,738
Echuca	3,236	3,371	3,598	3,947	6,759
Footscray	11,436	11,999	13,716	16,001	19,325
Geelong (Gordon Tech. Col.) ..	10,563	11,056	11,160	12,080	15,878
Glenferrie (Swinburne Tech. Col.)	19,750	19,444	20,799	22,908	26,699
Maryborough	6,109	5,992	6,235	7,106	7,997
Melbourne (Technical College) ..	32,556	42,957	45,437	50,693	55,800
Prahran	7,156	8,478	9,102	10,221	13,927
Preston .. .. .	..	..	..	1,470	23,173
Richmond	8,187	8,524	9,010	10,893	14,812
Sale	3,419	3,510	3,706	4,033	4,763
South Melbourne	7,941	8,706	9,688	10,572	12,190
Stawell	2,257	2,789	2,832	3,147	3,704
Sunshine	4,711	4,247	4,855	5,439	6,325
Wangaratta	3,431	3,755	3,893	4,128	4,321
Warrnambool	4,891	4,574	5,089	5,707	5,753
West Melbourne*	7,898	..	..	..	..
Wonthaggi	4,469	4,628	5,038	5,358	6,361
Yallourn	1,387	1,707	2,346	12,726	6,471
Other votes for technical schools	4,668	4,267	4,151	4,797	7,021
Miscellaneous	2,769	2,490	2,801	2,906	3,095
Total	231,641	239,600	256,115	303,378	358,264

* Amalgamated with Melbourne Technical College from 1st January, 1938.

THE MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE.

(Incorporated as The Working Men's College.)

**Melbourne
Technical
College.** The Melbourne Technical College was founded in 1887, as the Working Men's College, by the late Hon. Francis Ormond. It is open to both sexes, and supplies higher technical instruction. The minimum age for admission to the Junior Day School is 12 years and for admission to the Day Course for Diploma 15 years. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Scholarships and Prizes.

Several scholarships are awarded each year to eligible students of the Junior Day School and in addition the College Council awards scholarships annually to students of Junior Technical Schools. Various other scholarships which have been donated by manufacturers, commercial associations, and other bodies are available to senior students of the College.

The Council awards a prize each year to the best student of the day courses, and to the best student in each of the evening classes. Several valuable prizes are also given annually by employers and others interested in technical education.

Day Courses and Fees.

All fees are payable in advance. The year is divided into three terms. The following statement shows the day courses and the scale of fees per term for the year 1938 :—

Diploma Courses.	Fee per Term.	Other Day Courses.	Fee per Term.
Applied Chemistry ..	£5 10s. for the first and second years and £6 10s. thereafter	Architecture	4 10 0
Chemical Engineering ..		Commercial—Full Day ..	5 0 0
Metallurgy ..		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Metallurgical Engineering ..		Engineering Machine Shop—	
Mining Engineering ..		Special Full Day ..	3 0 0
Applied Science ..		Electrical Trades—Special	
Mechanical Engineering ..		Full Day	3 0 0
Electrical Engineering ..		Art Course—Full Time ..	4 0 0
Civil Engineering ..		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Municipal Engineering ..		Wool-sorting—Full Courses	8 0 0
Communication Engineering ..		Special Course ..	1 15 0
Automotive Engineering ..		Photography—Full Day ..	6 0 0
		Motor Mechanics—Trade	
		Course	5 0 0

Evening Courses and Classes.

In the evening school the following courses for certificates are in operation :—Assayers ; geologists ; aero, civil, electrical, mechanical, and structural engineers ; communication and production engineering ; land surveyors ; mechanical draughtsmen ; public analysts ; art ; architects ; industrial chemists ; evening course for diploma of chemistry ; heat treatment ; mine managers ; mine surveying ; primary and secondary metallurgy ; and building, constructional, engineering, and printing trades. The fees for evening tuition range from £1 10s. per term to £3 10s. per term according to the course taken.

The evening classes are also open to students who, instead of undertaking a full course, receive instruction in any one or more subjects of any course. Correspondence tuition is also conducted by the College.

The following table gives statistical details relating to the College during the years 1932 to 1936 :—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1932 TO 1936.

	1932.	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.
Individual students enrolled	4,389	5,181	6,125	7,102	8,304
Males	3,736	4,498	5,466	6,263	7,634
Females	653	683	659	839	670
Number of classes	303	341	369	380	382
Number of instructors	175	212	245	284	291
Salaries paid instructors ..£	31,103	36,415	37,672	43,461	49,134
Government grant ..£	31,238	31,180	33,000	33,367	37,082
Fees received during the year*£	13,721	16,210	19,741	24,890	27,547
Average fee per student ..	62s. 6d.	62s. 7d.	64s. 6d.	70s. 0d.	66s. 4d.

* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £581 in 1932, £854 in 1933, £1,028 in 1934, £1,300 in 1935, and £1,462 in 1936. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :— the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 5,097 volumes were purchased, 2,934 volumes presented, 347 volumes obtained under the "Libraries Act," and 49,931 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1936. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 430,273 volumes and 80,000 pamphlets. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 211,780 volumes during 1936, a decrease of 19,215 compared with 1935, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 10,856, which was 1,207 less than the number in 1935. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of the year mentioned was 73,541, of which 4,249 were added during the year.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £438,865. With the exception of the sum of £35,000 received from the McAllan bequest, the whole of the money required to meet the cost of the buildings was provided by Parliament.

The National Gallery at the end of 1936 contained 26,893 works of art, viz., 891 oil paintings, 6,512 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 19,490 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended during the year by 35 students, and the school of drawing by 131 students. The allocation for the year 1936 from the Felton bequest for purchase of paintings, statuary, and other works of art amounted to £29,071.

National and Industrial Museums.

The National Museum and the Industrial and Technological Museum are located in the Public Library Buildings. The collections in the former museum comprise natural history, geology, and ethnology, while in the latter museum more than 10,000 exhibits are displayed.

FREE LIBRARIES.**Free Libraries.**

There are about 420 free libraries in Victoria. Statistics for the year ended 31st December, 1936, were collected from 73 of the more important of these libraries, 26 of which are situated in the metropolitan area and 47 in the cities and chief towns in other parts of the State. The total receipts of these 73 libraries were £56,685; the Government contributed £24,884 and municipal councils £10,603. The total expenditure was £58,758, of which £12,992 was expended on the purchase of books, magazines, &c. There were 1,004,028 volumes in these libraries on the 31st December, 1936; of that number 519,228 were in the Public Library of Victoria, Melbourne.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.**Botanic Garden.**

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1846, is situated on the south side of the Yarra. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Adjoining the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Domain, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres.

ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL AND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.**Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Gardens.**

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 of Melbourne. 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, and spacious lawns for convenience of visitors. Specimens of most of the large animals of the world are exhibited there, as well as many native animals.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

This society was founded in the year 1849 by John Pascoe Fawkner, and has been in continuous activity to the present date. A brief statement of its history and of the work carried on by it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 528 and 529.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

According to returns received from municipal councils in 1935, the total area devoted to public reserves in Greater Melbourne was 8,627 acres, of which 2,377 acres were acquired by the councils at a cost of £665,888.

RELIGIONS.

The following statement shows the number of adherents to the various religious denominations and sects as ascertained at the Census of 4th April, 1921, and of 30th June, 1933:—

Religion.	Census of—		Increase 1921-1933.
	4th April, 1921.	30th June, 1933.	
	Persons.	Persons.	Persons.
Christian—			
Baptist	32,305	31,427	— 878
Catholic, Roman	315,718	315,516	— 202
Catholic, undefined	6,847	26,619	19,772
Church of Christ	22,250	26,274	4,024
Church of England	601,809	626,172	24,363
Congregational	15,893	12,458	— 3,435
Lutheran	8,684	8,759	75
Methodist	183,829	193,096	9,267
Presbyterian	257,072	276,699	19,627
Protestant, undefined	18,636	25,231	6,595
Salvation Army	9,183	8,711	— 472
Other Christian (including Christian undefined)	14,782	16,381	1,599
Total Christian	1,487,008	1,567,343	80,335
Non-Christian—			
Jews	7,677	9,500	1,823
Other Non-Christian	1,988	565	— 1,423
Total Non-Christian	9,665	10,065	400
Indefinite *	6,515	3,752	— 2,763
No Religion	5,810	3,535	— 2,275
No Reply	22,282	235,566	213,284
Total	1,531,280	1,820,261	288,981

* Includes Agnostic, Freethinker, No Denomination, Rationalist, Spiritualist, and other indefinite.

The large increase from 1·5 to 12·9 per cent. in the number of "No Reply" in 1933 compared with 1921 is apparently due to the variation in the Census return of 1933 from that of 1921 in the form of the question relating to religion. In the Census return of 1933 it was stated that with regard to the question of religion "There is

no legal obligation to answer this Question," whilst in the 1921 Census a person who objected to supply this detail was instructed to reply "object." In consequence of the increase in the number of persons who did not state their religion, a comparison on a percentage basis of the particulars obtained at the Census of 1933 with those of 1921 is not advisable.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The principal legislative provisions relating to friendly societies are contained in the *Friendly Societies Act 1928*, a summary of which appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 (pages 383-387). Under the provisions of this legislation the total amount which a member could claim from a registered friendly society was limited to 60s. per week and consequently societies which had contracted to pay a sickness benefit of that amount were unable to afford members an opportunity of making provision for the cost of hospital treatment. This restriction was removed by the *Friendly Societies Act 1934*, a description of the provisions of which is given in the *Year-Book* for 1934-35, page 213.

The legislative supervision exercised over friendly societies has had a very beneficial effect. The latest valuation reports show that there were only seven societies in Victoria with a ratio of assets to liabilities of less than 20s. in the £. One of these, a society of very small membership, consisting of females only, with a ratio of assets to liabilities of 14s. 7d. in the £, has since been amalgamated with a society of male members in which the ratio was 42s. In five of the remaining six societies the ratio was 19s. 10d., 19s. 9d., 18s. 10d., 18s. 2d., and 16s. respectively, and in the sixth society—one comprising a male section and a female section—the ratio in the former was 18s. 8d. and in the latter section 19s. 4d.

Since the year 1908, all the actuarial valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies have been made by the Government Statist, who is required by statute to be a fully qualified actuary.

The total membership of Victorian friendly societies increased during the period of ten years 1926-27—1935-36 by 11,879 members—from 160,411 to 172,290. The number of female members at the end of June, 1936, was 18,404, of whom 3,481 were associated with male branches of societies which did not have a separate section for female members. The total funds, other than those of dispensaries, increased during the same period from £4,513,972 to £5,848,236, there being an addition of £1,334,264. They are well invested; the average rate of interest earned on the capital of the sick and funeral funds during the year 1935-36 was 4.67 per cent. At the end of 1935-36 the total funds of dispensaries amounted to £180,739.

**Legislation
1928-1934.**

**Progress of
Friendly
Societies.**

The statement which follows contains information (exclusive of that relating to dispensaries) in regard to the societies for the five years, 1931-32 to 1935-36:—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1931-32 TO 1935-36.

NOTE.—The figures given below for "Other Funds" include all monetary transactions of societies other than ordinary friendly societies, and, for the year 1935-36, they include also transactions similar to some which in earlier years were included in Medical and Management Funds.

	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.
Number of societies	52	50	49	55	59
Number of branches	1,473	1,443	1,449	1,444	1,449
Number of members at end of year	158,920	158,516	160,816	166,180	172,290
Number of members sick	37,816	34,045	37,117	41,057	41,777
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	423,910	423,203	446,617	460,787	468,648
Deaths of members	1,724	1,641	1,699	1,833	1,777
Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits	628	579	670	633	626
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts—					
Sick and Funeral Funds	450,852	425,560	434,116	441,648	465,365
Medical and Management Funds	405,518	493,395	454,440	428,771	404,720
Other Funds	43,819	41,290	46,247	39,299	97,761
Less inter-fund transfers	— 43,305	— 134,062	— 92,689	— 28,688	— 43,748
Total Receipts	856,884	826,183	842,114	881,030	924,098
Expenditure—					
Sick and Funeral Funds	351,917	463,458	400,713	349,200	330,105
Medical and Management Funds	386,249	383,060	387,320	411,572	389,521
Other Funds	42,107	38,831	43,051	34,055	104,044
Less inter-fund transfers	— 43,305	— 134,062	— 92,689	— 28,688	— 43,748
Total Expenditure	736,968	751,287	738,395	766,739	779,922
Excess of Receipts over Expenditure	119,916	74,896	103,719	114,291	144,176
Amount of Funds—					
Sick and Funeral Funds	4,486,889	4,448,991	4,482,394	4,574,842	4,710,102
Medical and Management Funds	802,100	912,435	979,555	996,754	209,595
Other Funds	122,165	124,624	127,820	132,464	928,539
Total Funds	5,411,154	5,486,050	5,589,769	5,704,060	5,848,236
Disposal of Funds—					
Amounts invested—					
Sick and Funeral Funds	4,468,805	4,434,568	4,469,210	4,560,403	4,692,657
Medical and Management Funds	791,314	902,383	969,034	988,360	200,110
Other Funds	119,782	122,027	124,797	129,299	925,652
Amounts uninvested—					
All Funds	31,253	27,072	26,728	25,998	29,817

NOTE.—There are juvenile branches connected with some of the societies, but the information in regard to these has not been considered of sufficient importance to be included in the above statement.

Secessions and expenses. During the twelve months ended in June, 1936, the societies lost by secession 8,293 members; this was equal to about 5·0 per cent. of the membership at the beginning of that period. The corresponding rates of secession in 1932-33, 1933-34, and 1934-35 were 6·4, 6·1, and 5·1 respectively. As a rule, most of the secessions are those of new members who allow their membership to lapse before they have time to appreciate its value. The cost of management in the year 1935-36 was 14s. 10d. per member, which was 3d. per member less than the cost in the year 1934-35.

Sickness and mortality experience (Male Branches). The following statement shows, in regard to members of male branches of friendly societies, other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature, the number of weeks' sickness in respect of which claims for sick pay were paid in 1927-28 and 1928-29—the years immediately preceding the financial depression—and in subsequent years; also the number of weeks' sickness per effective member, the number of deaths of members, and the number per 1,000 effective members:—

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.	
		Number.	Per Average Effective Member.	Number.	Per 1,000 Average Effective Members.
		Weeks.	Weeks. Days.		
1927-28	128,924	290,583	2 2	1,423	11·04
1928-29	130,733	315,499	2 2	1,484	11·35
1929-30	131,655	321,799	2 3	1,515	11·51
1930-31	129,596	345,687	2 4	1,331	10·27
1931-32	126,228	393,315	3 1	1,615	12·79
1932-33	124,970	395,222	3 1	1,562	12·50
1933-34	126,471	411,979	3 2	1,599	12·64
1934-35	130,152	424,341	3 2	1,732	13·31
1935-36	134,336	432,467	3 1	1,671	12·44

NOTE.—Effective members are those entitled to claim sick and funeral benefits.

After 1928-29 the rate of sickness, per average effective member, rose steadily until it became three weeks and two days in 1933-34, at which it remained during the following year. In 1935-36 the rate fell by one day, but it was then at the same figure as in 1919. The rate in the last-mentioned year was abnormal; this was due chiefly to members who had been on active service in the Great War having deferred until their return to Victoria their claims for sick pay for incapacity arising out of sickness experienced and wounds received during previous years. It was also due in part to the influenza epidemic of that year.

Sickness and mortality experience (Female Branches).

The following statement shows, in regard to female members of friendly societies, other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature, the number of weeks' sickness in respect of which claims for sick pay were paid from 1927-28 to 1935-36; also the number of weeks' sickness per effective member; the number of deaths of members, and the number per 1,000 effective members:—

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.		
		Number.	Per Average Effective Member.		Number.	Per 1,000 Average Effective Members.
			Weeks.	Weeks.			Days.
1927-28 ..	9,957	17,571	1	5	50	5.02
1928-29 ..	10,228	19,510	1	5	47	4.60
1929-30 ..	10,717	21,288	2	0	45	4.20
1930-31 ..	10,897	22,250	2	0	51	4.68
1931-32 ..	10,935	25,103	2	2	47	4.30
1932-33 ..	11,246	27,248	2	3	40	3.56
1933-34 ..	11,759	28,448	2	3	44	3.74
1934-35 ..	12,318	30,414	2	3	56	4.55
1935-36 ..	12,761	30,553	2	2	56	4.39

NOTE.—Effective members are those entitled to claim sick and funeral benefits.

It will be observed that the trend of sickness, per average effective female member, followed closely that of male members during the corresponding period.

At the end of 1935-36 there were 33 United Friendly Societies' Dispensaries registered under the Friendly Societies Acts of Victoria, as separate friendly societies. The chief object for which these dispensaries are established is to provide the societies with a means of supplying medicine and medical and surgical appliances to their members and to persons claiming through members. Some of the dispensaries provide also the services of medical officers. The number of members connected with the dispensaries at the end of 1935-36 was 129,040. As the greater portions of the receipts and expenditure of the dispensaries are interwoven with those of the medical and management funds of the ordinary friendly societies, they are not given here. The assets and liabilities of the dispensaries at the end of 1935-36 amounted to £180,739 and £30,952, respectively. The assets included freehold property valued at £119,324 and cash £15,067; while the principal liabilities were mortgages and debentures for £14,468, and bank overdrafts amounting to £10,443.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

Labour legislation. The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female for more than eight hours in any day in a factory. The same Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working.

Since that year further legislative provisions have been made for the regulation of conditions of labour, and the community has gradually recognised the necessity of securing the health, the comfort of, and safety for the workers.

A description of the legislation relating to conditions of labour in factories and shops appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 on page 392.

Wages Boards. The Wages Board method of fixing wages and settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria. It was incorporated in an Act of Parliament introduced in the year 1896. A Board may be appointed for any trade or branch thereof. Each Board shall consist of not less than four nor more than ten members and a chairman nominated by the members of the Board (not being one of such members). In the event of a nomination not being so made the chairman shall be appointed by the Minister of Labour. Prior to the year 1934, each Board was composed of equal numbers of employers and employees, with a qualification that each representative should be actively engaged in the trade concerned. Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1934*, this qualification was relaxed to permit of a paid officer of any corporation, public body, or association of employers being nominated as one of the members to represent employers, and if such officer is appointed then one of the representatives of the employees on that Board shall be an officer of the trade union concerned.

In recent years Parliament has amended provisions of the Principal Act in respect of Wages Boards whereby their powers and functions have been altered to enable their determinations to be brought into harmony with the awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

The above-mentioned Act of 1934 empowers a Board to determine that the wages rates and piecework prices fixed in any determination made by it shall be automatically adjusted, at prescribed periods, to accord as nearly as practicable with the variation of the cost of living as indicated by such retail price index-numbers published by the Commonwealth Statistician as the Board considers appropriate. This Act, as amended by the *Factories and Shops Act 1936*, also provides that where under any Commonwealth Act, the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or a Conciliation Commissioner makes or has made an award with respect to employers and employees in any

industry, the Wages Board for every trade concerned, as soon as may be, shall incorporate in any of its determinations those provisions of such award which the Board is under the Factories and Shops Acts empowered to include.

The provisions relating to the powers and functions of Wages Boards described in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, were repealed by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1936. This Act gives Wages Boards the same powers relating to wages and conditions of labour as those incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These powers should enable Wages Boards to make determinations that are not inconsistent with awards of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court. Any Wages Board has now the power to determine any industrial matter whatsoever in relation to any trade or branch of trade for which such board has been appointed, and in particular to determine all matters relating to -

- (a) work and days and hours of work ;
- (b) pay, wages and reward ;
- (c) privileges, rights and duties of employers and employees ;
- (d) the mode, terms and conditions of employment or non-employment ;
- (e) the relations of employers and employees ;
- (f) the employment or non-employment of persons of any particular sex or age ;
- (g) the demarcation of functions of any employees or class of employees ; and
- (h) all questions of what is fair and right in relation to any industrial matter having regard to the interests of the persons immediately concerned and of society as a whole.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1936 further provides that the Governor in Council may on the recommendation of the Minister of Labour, appoint a Wages Board to be known as the "General Board," for any specified trades in respect of which no Wages Board determination is operative. This is a new provision in factory legislation in this State and has for its object the protection of persons engaged in industry who are not subject to any Wages Board.

Wages Boards are not empowered to determine any matter relating to the preferential employment or dismissal of persons as being or as not being members of any organization, association or body.

Enforcement of Determinations. A statement of the procedure with regard to the application and enforcement of determinations of Wages Boards appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, on page 395. In the same issue on page 396, a description is given of the constitution of the Court of Industrial Appeals, and of the procedure in respect of appeals against a determination.

During 1936 the Court dealt with appeals against the Determinations of the Sugar Refiners and Plumbers Boards, and of the Shops Board No. 16 (Hardware). In each case the Determination appealed against was amended by the Court.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW BOARDS.

During 1936 four new Wages Boards were appointed, namely:—The Dry Batteries Board, the Sewage Distribution Board, the Plaster of Paris Board and the Hospital Nurses Board. The powers conferred on these Boards by the Orders in Council appointing them are set out hereunder:—

Dry Batteries Board.—To determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person or persons or classes of persons (other than persons subject to the Determination of the Tinsmiths Board) employed in the process, trade, or business of wholly or partly preparing or manufacturing dry cell electric batteries.

Sewage Distribution Board.—To determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person or persons or classes of persons employed:—

- (a) in the process, trade, business, or occupation of distributing sewage from channels;
- (b) at or about tanks at sewage treatment works.

Plaster of Paris Board.—To determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person or persons or classes of persons employed in the process, trade, or business of—

- (a) making plaster of paris;
- (b) excavating or preparing the raw materials for plaster of paris.

Hospital Nurses Board.—To determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person or persons or classes of persons employed as—

- (a) certificated nurses in public, private, intermediate, or community hospitals or in convalescent homes;
- (b) nurses in training in hospitals recognized as training schools by the Nurses' Registration Board of Victoria.

The following alterations were made to the powers of Boards:—

Paint and Colour Board.—In addition to its original powers, this Board now has power to deal with the manufacture of titanium white or white lead.

Boot Board.—Provision was made for this Board to deal with persons designing or cutting patterns for boots, shoes, or slippers from metal or any other material.

Asbestos-Cement Board.—This Board was given additional power to deal with employees fixing corrugated asbestos-cement sheeting on roofs or walls of buildings.

Tinsmiths Board.—The Order constituting this Board was altered so that it now applies to persons preparing or manufacturing articles of tin plate or other metal 10-gauge or lighter, including the japanning of such articles, but not including persons cutting patterns of boots, shoes, and slippers.

Engineers and Brassworkers (Skilled) Board and Engineers and Brassworkers (Unskilled) Board.—Additional power was conferred on these Boards to enable them to deal with persons employed in the process, trade, or business of making or repairing typewriters, book-keeping machines, adding machines, or calculating machines.

Ovenmakers Board.—The powers of the Board were altered to allow it to deal with the vitreous enamelling of ovens, stoves, ranges, or parts thereof.

Hospital and Benevolent Asylum Attendants Board.—The Order constituting this Board was varied so that it will be clear that any person employed as a nurse, who is not subject to the newly-appointed Hospital Nurses Board, shall be subject to this Board.

Butter Board.—The powers of the Butter Board were varied so that instead of providing for workers in factories only, the Board shall be empowered to deal with persons *wheresoever employed* in the process, trade, business, or occupation of manufacturing or preparing for trade or sale milk, cream, butter, or cheese.

WEEKLY HOURS FIXED BY WAGES BOARDS.

Wages Boards, when fixing weekly wages, also determine the maximum number of hours for which such weekly wages shall be payable and provide overtime rates for time worked in excess of the number of hours fixed.

During the year 1936, determinations made by 172 Boards were in force. Of these, 140 Boards adopted one set of hours for all employees, and 32 Boards fixed different sets of hours according to the class of work done or to the sex of the workers. The particulars are summarized in the following statement:—

Boards which Determined Fixed Hours for all Employees.			Boards which Determined Differential Hours for Employees.		
Number of Boards.		Weekly Hours Adopted.	Number of Boards.		Weekly Hours Adopted.
2	.. ..	Less than 44	3	.. ..	44 and 42
66	.. ..	44	1	.. ..	46 .. 43
5	.. ..	46	4	.. ..	46 .. 44
1	.. ..	46½	10	.. ..	48 .. 44
1	.. ..	46¾	3	.. ..	48 .. 45
3	.. ..	47	5	.. ..	48 .. 46
61	.. ..	48	2	.. ..	48 .. 47
1	.. ..	More than 48	4	.. ..	48 and over 48
			1	.. ..	44, 46, and 48
			1	.. ..	44, 47, and 48

On 31st December, 1936, there were 183 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 226,000 employees.

A definition of a factory under the *Factories and Shops Act* 1928 is given on pages 398 and 399 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29. This definition has been amended in the following manner by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1934, which provides that a place where electric power not exceeding one-half horse power is used and which does not otherwise come within the meaning of a factory is exempt from the provisions of the Act. Previously a minimum with regard to electric power was not prescribed.

Any place in which any person is employed in any manufacturing process involving the use of a compound of lead is now defined as a factory.

In order to strengthen the legislation relating to the supervision of the making of bread, the definition of a bread factory is now "any place where bread is baked for trade as well as for sale."

In 1936 there were registered 12,220 factories in which 170,084 persons were employed.

Factory legislation. A summary of factory legislation existing at the date of the Consolidating Act of 1928 appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 399-401.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1934 made important alterations in the law relating to the supervision and regulation of factories and shops. The principal provisions of these alterations (apart from those described under Wages Boards) are as follow:—

The prohibition of work in the manufacture of boots and shoes in factories on any day before 7.30 a.m. or after 6 p.m. or on a Saturday after 2 p.m. Work on a Sunday is prohibited. Power is given to the Minister of Labour to suspend, for not more than two months, the operation of this prohibition to meet the exigencies of trade.

The prohibition of the carting or delivery of bread in the Metropolitan District on sale before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on any day and of the making (other than dough-making) or baking of bread on a Sunday.

The prohibition of the carting of goods, etc., on a Sunday, except perishable and certain other goods, unless a permit to do such carting has been obtained from the Chief Inspector of Factories.

The forbidding of a premium for employing any person under the age of 21 years in work to which a determination of any Wages Board (other than the Chemists' Board) applies. The sum of £100 is fixed as the maximum amount of premium payable to a chemist under any apprenticeship agreement.

The conditions have been amended under which work may be issued from factories for the manufacture of wearing apparel or boots to licensed outside workers. No persons other than outside workers shall be employed on such manufacture except members of each outside worker's own family who are under fourteen years of age or have been granted permission by the Secretary of Labour to be so employed. Factory occupiers are not permitted to employ a greater number of licensed outside workers than one for every ten or fraction of ten

workers employed in the factory. Occupiers of factories are required to keep a complete record of work issued to outside workers.

The occupier of every factory where more than 600 persons are employed or when work of a hazardous nature is performed and more than 300 persons are employed shall, if directed, provide an ambulance room properly equipped and under the charge of a qualified attendant.

The most important provision is designed to prevent the contravention of the determination of Wages Boards in the Bread Trade by the performance of work under contract. A Bread Trade Tribunal may be established consisting of a judge of the County Court, one representative of employers and one of employees. Power is given to the Tribunal to deal with any case where proceedings are taken against any person for contravention of a determination where such person alleges that under the contract the relation between himself and the person in respect of whom such determination is alleged to have been contravened is not the relation of employer and employee. All questions of law or of the amount of any penalty to be imposed or of the costs to be awarded shall be decided by the President alone, but in all other matters the decision of the majority shall be the decision of the Tribunal. Penalties varying from £20 to £200 may be imposed for breaches of determinations. The Governor in Council may by proclamation extend to other trades the provisions relating to the Bread Trade Tribunal.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1936* provides that the Chief Inspector of Factories may, after due inquiry, refuse to register or cancel the registration of any factory or shop. The object of this provision is to give power to the Chief Inspector to deal with any deliberate attempt to evade the statutory provisions relating to the registration of factories and shops. If the Chief Inspector refuses to register or cancels the registration of a factory or shop, pursuant to this provision, the occupier thereof may appeal in respect of such cancellation or refusal to a court of petty sessions consisting of a police magistrate sitting alone. The decision of the Court shall be final.

The provisions of earlier Acts which restricted the powers of Wages Boards have been repealed, and the 1936 Act gives the Boards authority to deal with any industrial matter other than the preferential employment of unionists.

The same Act provides for the appointment of a General Board, the powers and duties of which have been set out herein under the heading of Wages Boards. Another important provision is that all legal proceedings for offences against the *Factories and Shops Acts* within the Metropolitan District shall be heard by the Metropolitan Industrial Court instead of by various Courts of Petty Sessions as formerly. The new legislation has as its object uniformity in the manner of dealing with offenders and in the imposition of penalties.

**Shops,
Metropolitan
District and
outside thereof.** The hours for closing of shops in both these Districts, as defined by the *Shops and Factories Act 1928*, are stated in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 401-403.

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915. At the end of that year there were 26,401 registered shops with 25,632 employees. The annual registration fee, which is based on the number of persons employed in the shop, varies from 2s. 6d. to £10.

Registered shops are divided into 26 classes. There was, during the year 1936, an increase compared with 1935 of 237 shops, and of 1,333 employees. Particulars of the shops registered and number of employees are given below:—

SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 1936.

Class of Shop.	Metropolitan.		Country and Provincial Cities.		Whole State.	
	No. of Shops.	No. of Em- ployees.	No. of Shops.	No. of Em- ployees.	No. of Shops.	No. of Em- ployees.
Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry	4,245	1,266	2,442	698	6,687	1,964
Booksellers, News Agents	929	657	469	306	1,398	963
Boot Dealers	312	860	294	309	606	1,169
Boot Repairers	839	39	572	63	1,411	102
Butchers	1,229	2,331	1,069	1,527	2,298	3,858
Chemists	540	817	337	360	877	1,177
Crockery	50	132	16	19	66	151
Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites	921	1,401	1,231	1,039	2,152	2,440
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat	792	513	156	125	948	638
Drapery and Men's Clothing	2,029	9,087	1,411	2,728	3,440	11,815
Electrical and Radio	328	442	206	119	534	561
Fancy Goods Dealers	249	1,284	217	324	466	1,608
Fish	422	116	120	45	542	161
Florists	317	173	93	42	410	215
Fruit and Vegetable	1,687	306	1,042	341	2,729	647
Fuel and Fodder	1,129	436	333	283	1,462	719
Furniture	387	1,043	164	250	551	1,293
Grocers	2,736	2,642	1,451	1,591	4,187	4,233
Hairdressers	1,482	1,197	1,009	372	2,491	1,569
Hardware	488	1,302	518	634	1,006	1,936
Jewellery	251	295	193	105	444	400
Leather Goods	122	144	265	49	387	193
Musical Instruments	41	218	43	34	84	252
Tobacconists	1,203	129	273	42	1,476	171
Mixed	371	101	1,461	3,206	1,832	3,307
Shops not classified	1,265	1,266	820	294	2,085	1,560
Total 1936	24,364	28,197	16,205	14,905	40,569	43,102
Total 1935	24,455	27,807	15,877	13,962	40,332	41,709
Total 1934	24,464	27,356	15,824	13,864	40,288	41,220
Total 1933	24,112	25,438	15,869	13,187	39,981	38,625
Total 1932	24,213	24,255	15,288	12,451	39,501	36,706

THE BASIC WAGE.

The first basic wage, as such, was declared in 1907 by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration at 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week in Melbourne. This was popularly known as the "Harvester" Judgment.

This basic wage has been varied from time to time by the Court in accordance with the variation in the "All Houses" Index Numbers ("A" Series—food, groceries, and rent of all houses) prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician.

An amount known as the "Powers' 3s." was added in 1922 to the weekly rate of wage for the purpose of securing to the worker during a period of rising prices the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard.

In accordance with the judgment of the Court of 22nd January, 1931, the rates became subject to a reduction of 10 per cent.

On 5th May, 1933, the Court made an award which ordered that the variations in the "All Items" Index Numbers ("C" Series—Food, Groceries, Housing—4 and 5 rooms only—Clothing and Miscellaneous Expenditure) of the Commonwealth Statistician be applied in a certain manner to the "All Houses" Index Numbers ("A" Series) for the adjustment of all wages under the award. The resultant Index Numbers became known as the "D" Series.

The Basic Wage Inquiry of 1934 brought a further change in the method of calculating the basic wage. The judgment of the Arbitration Court, delivered on 17th April, 1934, provided that the "All Items" Index Numbers be used as the measure for assessment and adjustment of the basic wage. Appropriate tables for use in the process of adjustment are included in the schedule to the judgment. The Court also considered that the addition of the "Powers' 3s." was no longer justifiable.

As a result of the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1937 the Arbitration Court issued a retail price index series of its own. This series is based upon and corresponds with the Commonwealth Statistician's "All Items" series, but it is specially numbered for convenience in the adjustment of the basic wage. Provision was also made for the addition of a "fixed loading" of six shillings to the existing wage, payable in two instalments.

Basic weekly rates of wage and the date on which they became payable are shown hereunder for the nine years 1929-1937 :—

Year—	Basic Weekly Wage Payable in Melbourne on—			
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1929 ..	4 6 0	4 9 6	4 10 0	4 10 0
1930 ..	4 10 0	4 6 0	4 5 6	4 3 0
1931 ..	3 10 2*	3 8 5	3 5 8	3 3 5
1932 ..	3 3 5	3 3 11	3 3 0	3 1 8
1933 ..	3 0 4	3 3 4†	3 2 5	3 2 10
1934 ..	3 3 4	..	..	..
	1st March.	1st June.	1st September.	1st December.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1934 ..	..	3 4 0‡	3 4 0	3 4 0
1935 ..	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0
1936 ..	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 9 0
1937 ..	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 13 0§	3 17 0§

* 10 per cent. reduction became operative and continued to operate until 1st June 1934.

† "D" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 5th May, 1933 (less 10 per cent. reduction).

‡ "C" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 17th April, 1934.

§ Commonwealth Arbitration Court Series Index Numbers.—Award of 23rd June, 1937. The Court ordered a "fixed loading" addition of six shillings to the existing wage—three shillings to be added as from the commencement of the first pay period beginning in July, 1937, and October, 1937, respectively.

**Basic Wage—
Outside
Metropolitan
Area.**

Prior to 1934 the basic wage for Victoria differed only slightly from that for the capital city. In its judgment in that year the Court made special reference to the basic wage payable in industries outside the metropolitan area, and it ruled that except in certain specified districts where the cost of living appeared to be correctly indicated by the local "All Items" Index Numbers, or where known circumstances indicated that the general rule should not apply, the basic wage for provincial places shall be a constant 3s. per week less than that for the metropolitan district in the same State. Special provision was made also for assessing or adjusting the wage in certain places.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS—ALL ITEMS.

(" C " SERIES.)

Retail Price
Index-
Numbers—
" C " Series.

The following table shows the " C " Series of retail price index-numbers for Melbourne, prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician, which comprise food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing, and miscellaneous expenditure. This series applied to the majority of awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in accordance with its judgment of 17th April, 1934, but was superseded by an index number of the " Court's " own construction as described in the Report of the " Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937. " The weighted average for the six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period, 1923-27, as Base = 1,000.

Period.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. " All Items."	Year.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. " All Items."
November, 1914 ..	671	1932	813
November, 1921 ..	1003	1933	789
Years 1923-1927 ..	990	1934	801
1929 ..	1017	1935	824
1930 ..	956	1936	844
1931 ..	846	1937	868

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS—ALL HOUSES.

(" A " SERIES.)

Retail Price
Index-
Numbers—
" A " Series.

The " A " series of retail price index-numbers for Melbourne prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician are shown hereunder. Prior to the judgment of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration delivered on 17th April, 1934, this series was used for all periodical adjustments of wages controlled by that court—the series now, however, applies to comparatively few awards. In the calculation of these numbers the prices of food,

groceries, and the rent of all houses are taken into account. The weighted average for the six Capital Cities in 1911 *as Base* = 1,000:—

Year.			Retail Price Index-Numbers (Food, Groceries, and Housing—All Houses) for Melbourne.	Year.			Retail Price Index-Numbers (Food, Groceries, and Housing—All Houses) for Melbourne.
1911	..	..	950	1931	..	..	1448
1914	..	..	1105	1932	..	..	1378
1917	..	..	1294	1933	..	..	1319
1920	..	..	1788	1934	..	..	1367
1923	..	..	1749	1935	..	..	1420
1926	..	..	1801	1936	..	..	1472
1929	..	..	1812	1937	..	..	1515
1930	..	..	1672				

APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

Under the *Apprenticeship Act 1928* (No. 3636), which was proclaimed on 8th May, 1928, an Apprenticeship Commission was appointed to administer the Act and to supervise apprenticeship in trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades thereunder. The provisions of the Act apply only within the Metropolitan District as defined under the Factories and Shops Acts.

The following statement shows the trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in each of the years 1933 to 1937:—

Trade.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June—				
	1933.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.
Building Group—					
Plumbing and gasfitting ..	121	119	120	150	224
Carpentry and Joinery ..	92	93	100	175	230
Painting, Decorating, and Signwriting ..	36	32	32	42	66
Plastering ..	12	11	12	13	21
Printing Group ..	248	344	463	532	568
Electrical Group ..	120	163	183	279	357
Motor Mechanics' Group ..	57	76	112	151	229
Bootmaking Group ..	226	399	511	606	638
Moulding Group ..	10	15	22	116	185
Engineering Group* ..	..	..	..	49	417
Total ..	922	1,252	1,555	2,113	2,935

* Proclaimed as apprenticeship trade on 1st April, 1936.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE

**Government
Labour
Exchange.**

The Government Labour Exchange is under the control of the Labour Department. Applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment, principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are selected for employment when work is available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. The Exchange also undertakes to provide workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts. The cost of these advances is subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

During the financial year ended 30th June, 1937, 11,321 rail fares have been advanced, valued at £7,443, of which £7,002 has been refunded, while during that period £181 has been collected against prior years.

During the 36 years ended 30th June, 1937, 155,118 rail fares have been advanced to the value of £126,840; of this sum £100,999 has been refunded.

The following is a summary of the operations of the Exchange for the year 1936 in respect of registrations and applicants sent to employment :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Year and Month.	Applications for Employment in the Metropolis.		Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.	
	Number Registered during each Month.	Number remaining on Register at end of each Month.	In the Metropolis.	In the Country.
1936—January	3,849	12,895	1,707	430
February	3,099	12,713	948	670
March	2,794	11,321	1,744	1,072
April	4,125	10,950	2,074	994
May	3,062	10,904	1,283	1,084
June	3,828	11,203	1,596	1,743
July	4,773	12,395	1,366	1,568
August	3,456	11,706	2,176	1,567
September	3,341	11,101	1,706	1,119
October	3,943	11,365	1,179	774
November	3,047	11,432	955	1,017
December	3,170	12,415	735	383
Total	42,487	..	17,469	12,421

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the Exchange during the five years ended 1936 :—

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1932	81,322	21,689	13,566
1933	83,023	17,084	19,834
1934	58,686	14,269	17,590
1935	49,909	35,936	29,031
1936	42,487	27,591	29,890

With regard to the number of registrations effected, it must be understood that these figures do not represent distinct individuals, as there is a large number of men who are regular applicants at the Exchange during each year. Although it is known that these duplications are numerous, the actual extent cannot be ascertained. In connexion with the engagements effected in the course of a year, allowance must therefore be made for the fact that the same applicants may be employed more than once during the year and also for the fact that the figures quoted do not include the large numbers of labourers engaged "on the job" for Government earthworks in the country.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following statement shows the number of male persons registered as unemployed at the Government Labour Exchange and its Branches in the last week of each month of the period of twelve months ended on the 30th June, in each of the five years 1932-33 to 1936-37 :—

Last Week of Month of—	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
July	61,214	36,551	34,679	30,002	20,431
August	58,089	37,808	32,273	28,608	19,369
September	53,397	36,840	30,756	27,179	19,084
October	47,205	34,841	29,478	24,399	18,761
November	39,811	32,111	29,035	20,837	17,560
December	40,742	32,577	28,349	20,198	18,189
January	39,691	33,275	27,751	18,990	18,136
February	38,478	32,507	27,243	18,828	16,906
March	36,039	32,983	27,409	16,962	16,842
April	36,642	35,335	30,685	17,839	16,735
May	36,443	35,881	32,141	17,937	14,785
June	36,877	35,679	32,078	18,552	14,895

The highest number of registrations was recorded, during the period under review, in the month of July, 1932. The improved condition in respect of employment is shown by the marked decrease in the number of registrations since that date.

Relief of Unemployment. The rapid increase in unemployment in the year 1930 necessitated Government action to relieve the resultant distress. Additional taxation was superimposed upon the existing income tax and wages were taxed by the method of stamp duties.

The rates of tax and of stamp duties for the relief of unemployment on incomes and wages earned during the year ended 30th June, 1931, appear on pages 255 and 256 of the *Year-Book* for 1930-31. The Stamps (Unemployment Relief) Acts expired on 5th November, 1932, and legislative provision was made for the collection of relief moneys by annual assessment instead of by stamp duty. Particulars of the tax are given in Part "Finance" of this issue of the *Year-Book*.

The revenue obtained from the unemployment relief taxation from the date of the commencement of the operation of the tax in 1930-31 to 30th June, 1937, amounted to £11,988,534, of which £185,419 was refunded to taxpayers, the net revenue being £11,803,115. The yearly net collections of tax were as follow :—1930-31, £1,234,463; 1931-32, £1,622,400; 1932-33, £1,730,867; 1933-34, £1,615,371; 1934-35, £1,685,298; 1935-36, £1,970,334; and 1936-37, £1,944,382.

In addition to the revenue from the above-mentioned taxation, moneys for relief have been raised by way of loan, and grants have been made by the Commonwealth Parliament. Loans for relief purposes were first raised during the year 1932-33. The loan expenditure during the five years 1932-33 to 1936-37 was £7,906,623. The total cost of relief during the eight years, 1929-30 to 1936-37, was £21,152,239, of which £11,662,484 was raised by taxation, and £7,906,623 by loans; Commonwealth loan contributions and grants amounted to £1,532,369; and £50,763 was provided by interest on advances, &c. At 30th June, 1937, the balance to the credit of the Unemployment Relief Fund was £140,631. The following is a detailed statement of the disbursements from the Unemployment Relief Fund, Loan, and other Funds from 1st July, 1929, to 30th June, 1937 :—

EXPENDITURE ON UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF, 1929-30 TO 1936-37.

Allocation of Expenditure.	Expended during 1929-30 to 1935-36 from—			Expended during 1936-37 from—			Total Expended to 30th June, 1937, from—		
	Unemploy- ment Relief Fund.	Loans, Common- wealth Loan Con- tributions and Grants.	Total.	Unemploy- ment Relief Fund.	Loans, Common- wealth Loan Con- tributions and Grants.	Total.	Unemploy- ment Relief Fund.	Loans, Common- wealth Loan Con- tributions and Grants.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sustenance and Sustenance Work	7,208,129	93,204	7,301,333	1,193,331	46,946	1,240,277	8,401,460	140,150	8,541,610
Municipalities	585,278	297,158	882,436	14,698	20,000	34,698	599,976	317,158	917,134
Departmental, &c.—									
Public Works and Mines ..	421,268	678,753	1,100,021	39,377	261,584	300,961	460,645	940,337	1,400,982
Railways	12,250	1,501,525	1,513,775	..	307,390	307,390	12,250	1,808,915	1,821,165
Lands	134,359	56,896	191,255	1,614	66,675	68,289	135,973	123,571	259,544
Treasurer	160,893	950,816	1,111,709	112,710	6,461	119,171	273,603	957,277	1,230,880
Country Roads Board ..	215,042	1,055,853	1,270,895	986	211,159	212,145	216,028	1,267,012	1,483,040
Forests and Foresters' Quarters	195,104	784,855	979,959	634	318,062	318,696	195,738	1,102,917	1,298,655
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	193,959	1,315,027	1,508,986	5,255	387,561	392,816	199,214	1,702,588	1,901,802
Closer Settlement Commission ..	..	60,183	60,183	..	15,475	15,475	..	75,658	75,658
State Electricity Commission ..	..	130,000	130,000	..	8,500	8,500	..	138,500	138,500
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works .. .. .	..	407,500	407,500	..	34,000	34,000	..	441,500	441,500
Sewerage Authorities .. .. .	..	227,875	227,875	..	7,007	7,007	..	234,882	234,882
Waterworks Trusts .. .. .	..	54,878	54,878	..	83	83	..	54,961	54,961
Miscellaneous*	34,057	117,516	151,573	54,800	16,050	70,850	88,857	133,566	222,423
Expenditure on Relief ..	9,160,339	7,732,039	16,892,378	1,423,405	1,706,953	3,130,358	10,583,744	9,438,992	20,022,736
Administration	389,939	..	389,939	81,349	..	81,349	471,288	..	471,288
Interest and Sinking Fund on Loans	402,946	..	402,946	255,269	..	255,269	658,215	..	658,215
Refund of Taxes	174,532	..	174,532	10,886	..	10,886	185,418	..	185,418
Total Expenditure ..	10,127,756	7,732,039	17,859,795	1,770,909	1,706,953	3,477,862	11,898,665	9,438,992	21,337,657

* Including Commonwealth and State joint relief to Local Authorities (municipalities, sewerage, and water authorities) for debt service charges.

Sustenance. Every male person who receives sustenance is required, on demand, and in return for such sustenance, to perform work (of such a class as is prescribed on the recommendation of the Employment Council of Victoria) for the municipality within whose municipal district sustenance is received.

On the recommendation of the Employment Council of Victoria a scheme was brought into operation, on 3rd July, 1933, under which genuine unemployed male persons have been, as far as practicable, provided with some employment each week.

The results of the working of the scheme are shown in the following table :—

Month of—	1936.		1937.	
	Total Number of Units in Receipt of Sustenance.†	Number Working in Return for Sustenance.	Total Number of Units in Receipt of Sustenance.†	Number Working in Return for Sustenance.
January ..	16,580	12,983	15,497	12,404
February ..	15,829	12,638	14,862	12,256
March ..	15,027	12,134	14,038	11,554
April ..	14,693	11,824	14,158	11,717
May ..	14,140	11,416	12,529	10,418
June ..	14,723	12,096	12,008	10,341
July ..	16,682	13,580	13,287	11,644
August ..	16,031	10,371	14,610	12,680
September ..	15,474	12,171	14,324	12,123
October ..	15,097	12,741	13,777	11,614
November ..	14,955	12,837	13,255	11,214
December ..	15,911	13,471	14,034	11,590

† Including number working in return for sustenance.

Sustenance is provided at the same rates in every part of Victoria and is distributed through the agency of public assistance committees appointed under the provisions of the *Unemployment Relief (Administration) Act 1932*.

Persons eligible to receive sustenance in accordance with the abovementioned Act may on and from the 6th day of September, 1937, be granted sustenance as set out in the following scales, but

so that the total amount of the income received by a family unit and the value of the sustenance granted shall in no case exceed £3 14s. in any one week.

Family Unit.	Maximum Weekly Permissible Income.	Maximum Weekly Sustenance that may be Granted to—		
		Unemployable for whom Sustenance has been Specially Authorized by the Hon. the Minister.	Employable Applicant for whom Work in Return for Sustenance is not Provided.	Employable Male Working in Return for Sustenance, <i>vide</i> Section (8) of the Act.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Itinerant unemployed male	<i>s. d.</i> 10 0	<i>s. d.</i> ..	<i>s. d.</i> 11 0	<i>s. d.</i> 17 6
Approved prospector	12 0	..	11 0	17 6
Individual residing with strangers or relatives other than parents	12 0	6 6	11 0	17 6
Single unemployed employable male 21 years of age or over as member of family unit the head of which is in receipt of sustenance	In accordance with family unit of which he is a member	..	5 0	10 0
Two	20 0	9 9	18 6	30 6
Three	25 0	And for each unemployed dependant ir-	And for each male unemployed dependant under	And for each unemployed dependant residing with the applicant—
Four	27 6	pective of age, 2s. 6d. per week:	21 years of age, and for each unemployed female dependant ir-	(a) 4s. per week for each dependant under 16 years of age,
Five	30 0	Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed 29s. 9d. per week.	respective of age, 4s. per week:	(b) 5s. per week for each male 16 years and under 21 years of age,
Six	32 6		Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed 50s. 6d. per week.	(c) 5s. per week for each female 16 years of age or over:
Seven	35 0			Provided in any instance the total value of sustenance does not exceed 62s. 6d. per week.
Eight	37 6			
Nine	40 0			
Ten	42 6			

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

There were 701 charitable and reformatory organizations throughout the State in 1936. The total receipts of all these organizations during the year ended 30th June, 1936, amounted to £2,524,901, of which £1,243,313 was contributed by the Government and £1,281,588 was received from all other sources.- The total expenditure was £2,539,487. These particulars do not include payments, which amounted to £3,463,701 during 1935-36, made by the Commonwealth Government to old-age and invalid

pensioners of this State. The daily average number under care indoors was 21,301, and there were 382,061 cases of out-door relief during the year. These numbers, in respect of indoor and out-door patients, refer to the number of "cases" treated and not to distinct persons. It is considered probable that some persons obtained relief or became inmates at more than one establishment, but there is no information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

A summary of the particulars in respect of charitable and reformatory institutions is given in the following table:—

**CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—
INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1935-36.**

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average In-door Patients or Inmates	Number of Cases of Out-door Relief.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
HOSPITALS.							
Special—				£	£	£	£
Austin Hospital	1	361	..	17,695	31,486	49,181	46,316
Children's Hospital	1	345	21,599	16,960	46,002	62,962	70,655
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	130	12,375	7,586	25,717	33,303	33,191
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	121	..	886	4,763	5,649	6,971
Eye and Ear Hospital	1	104	31,542	6,247	18,861	25,108	22,003
Women's Hospital	1	253	9,903	11,645	40,834	52,479	53,422
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	490	..	37,458	43,072	80,530	84,697
General Hospitals	54	2,817	165,657	184,846	408,766	593,612	601,118
Auxiliary Hospitals	2	275	4,227	19,961	20,501	40,462	38,552
Foundling Hospitals and Infants' Homes	5	422	163	10,542	18,169	28,711	32,962
Convalescent Homes	2	49	..	550	2,400	2,950	2,976
Sanatoria	3	339	2	18,951	12,229	31,180	31,525
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses	11	6,202	..	409,769	44,923	454,692	454,692
Total	84	11,908	245,468	743,096	717,723	1,460,819	1,479,080
ASYLUMS AND ORPHANAGES.							
Benevolent Homes	10	2,118	1,222	39,823	68,873	108,696	105,486
Orphanages	26	2,958	..	39,282	95,939	135,221	134,035
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions	3	252	..	3,700	40,552	44,252	46,965
Total	39	5,328	1,222	82,805	205,364	288,169	286,486
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Rescue Homes and Female Refuges	12	964	..	6,124	55,211	61,335	60,120
Inebriates' Institutions	2	75	..	2,971	3,150	6,121	6,121
Children's Welfare Department	6	1,804	11,442	265,187	8,767	273,954	273,954
Gaols and Penal Establishments	12	1,222	..	114,115	..	114,115	114,115
Total	32	4,065	11,442	388,397	67,128	455,525	454,310
MISCELLANEOUS INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.							
Free Dispensaries	2	..	10,895	1,004	1,011	2,015	2,085
Benevolent Societies	199	..	33,234	12,384	44,148	56,532	55,426
Other Societies	345	..	79,800	15,627	246,214	261,841	262,100
Total	546	..	123,929	29,015	291,373	320,388	319,611
Grand Total	701	21,301	382,061	1,243,313	1,281,588	2,524,901	2,539,487

Income of
Charitable
Institutions.

The receipts of hospitals, charitable, and reformatory institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) in the State under various headings for the year 1935-36 are shown hereunder :—

**SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS
IN VICTORIA, 1935-36.**

Receipts.	Public Hospitals.	Foundling Hospitals and Infants' Homes.	Benevolent Homes.	Orphanages.	Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institutions.	Rescue Homes and Female Refugees.	Other Institutions.*	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid ..	303,284	10,542	39,823	39,282	3,700	6,124	726,443	1,129,198
Municipal Grants ..	77,044	185	875	628	810	91	32,460	112,093
Private Contributions ..	87,221	4,167	4,714	25,455	19,916	1,999	48,363	191,835
Proceeds of Entertainments	28,349	1,314	1,595	1,527	3,295	81	24	36,185
Legacies, Bequests and Donations ..	129,178	6,291	4,321	20,552	4,280	2,340	657	167,619
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations ..	17,649	593	1,698	1,481	198	1,222	106	22,947
Contributions of Indoor Patients ..	137,376	2,273	43,350	11,813	3,537	4,100	60,742	263,191
Out-patients' Fees ..	47,211	..	..	..	11	..	..	47,222
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour ..	285	..	748	13,318	1,921	45,043	103	61,418
Interest or Rent ..	31,984	2,675	9,975	12,821	3,468	115	82	61,120
Other Sources ..	83,705	671	1,597	8,344	3,116	220	220,305	317,958
Total ..	943,286	28,711	108,696	135,221	44,252	61,335	1 089,285	2,410,786

* Including Department of Mental Hygiene, Children's Welfare Department, and Benevolent Societies, but excluding Gaols and Penal Establishments.

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) during each year of the period of three years ended on 30th June, 1936, is given in the following table. For the year 1935-36, Government aid was equivalent to 46·83 per cent. of the total receipts, municipal grants and payments to 4·65 per cent., payments of inmates and out-patients to 12·88 per cent., private contributions to 7·96 per cent., legacies, bequests, and donations

Charitable
Institutions—
receipts and
expenditure.

to 6·95 per cent., receipts from Lord Mayor's Fund, &c., to 0·95 per cent., interest and rent to 2·54 per cent., loan receipts to 1·40 per cent., and receipts from all other sources to 15·84 per cent.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE
INSTITUTIONS, 1933-34 TO 1935-36.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June.		
	1934.	1935.	1936.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£
Government Aid	1,049,895	1,035,668	1,129,198
Municipal Grants and Payments ..	112,124	112,409	112,093
Patients' and Inmates' Contributions	258,908	281,196	310,413
Private Contributions	199,467	211,164	191,835
Legacies, Bequests, and Donations ..	201,657	189,095	167,619
Lord Mayor's Fund, Hospital Sunday, and Church Donations	28,024	19,347	22,947
Interest or Rent	58,040	58,124	61,120
Loan Receipts	129,945	135,982	33,859
Other Sources	309,304	325,792	381,702
Total Receipts	2,347,364	2,368,777	2,410,786
<i>Expenditure.</i>			
Ordinary	1,949,965	2,033,932	2,181,202
Extraordinary	60,029	74,626	63,821
Building	339,750	219,299	180,349
Total Expenditure	2,349,744	2,327,857	2,425,372

Charitable Institutions—Accommodation and inmates. The next statement shows the accommodation available and the number of inmates maintained in the following institutions during the year ended 30th June, 1936 :—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ACCOMMODATION, AND INMATES, 1935-36.

Institution.	Number of Beds.	Number of Inmates.	
		Total during the Year.	Daily Average.
Austin Hospital	372	1,284	361
Children's Hospital	366	5,449	345
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	141	3,731	130
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	138	173	121
Eye and Ear Hospital	114	3,379	104
Women's Hospital	285	8,345	253
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	720	6,264	490
General Hospitals	4,083	56,230	2,817
Auxiliary Hospitals	295	6,073	275
Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows	260	450	264
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	100	252	96
Tweddle Hospital for Babies	14	91	7
Bethany Home, Geelong	44	64	22
St. Gabriel's Babies' Home	36	84	33
Convalescent Homes	66	1,053	49
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	100	294	101
Heatherton Sanatorium for Consumptives	124	297	120
Gresswell Sanatorium for Consumptives	144	400	118
Mental Hospitals	6,317	8,307	6,202
Benevolent Homes	2,492	4,443	2,118
Orphanages	3,036	4,364	2,958
Deaf and Dumb and Blind Asylums	280	314	252
Rescue Homes and Female Refuges	1,168	1,936	964
Inebriates' Institutions	97	206	75
Children's Welfare Department .. .. .	..	16,140*	13,246*
Total	20,792	129,623	31,521

* Number under control.

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 45 mothers of infants in the Tweddle Hospital, 95 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 112 mothers of infants in St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows, and 520 infants in the Female Refuges during the year.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1928.

An Act to consolidate the law relating to the management of hospitals and charities in the State of Victoria was passed in the year 1928, and was proclaimed on 18th December, 1929. A summary of its provisions appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 418 and 419.

The *Hospitals and Charities Act* 1936 gives the Charities Board power to make or cause to be made an inspection of any registered unsubsidized institution and to recommend conditions to be attached to the granting of government subsidies. It gives authority to an incorporated institution to raise money by debentures on the income of such institution. In the matter of the recovery of fees for treatment of patients in institutions, the liability which formerly was limited to an assessment on the means of the patient himself, has been widened to enable recovery of fees from a responsible person such as the parent or guardian or husband or wife as the case may be. The patient or person responsible is required, under penalty, to complete a statement as to means and ability to pay for treatment.

No charitable institution or benevolent society may be established without the consent in writing of the Charities Board.

A Fund called "The Hospitals and Charities Fund" was established in the Treasury in 1923. To this Fund Parliament has voted a large sum each year for making contributions towards the cost of maintenance and of building works of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies. The amount of the vote for the year 1936-37 was £200,000, plus the sum of £100,000 from State Unemployment Relief (Taxation) Fund. The total amount available for distribution from the Hospitals and Charities Fund for 1936-37, including Totalizator Receipts, was £447,802. The matters which are to be considered when making payments from the Fund are set forth on page 231 of the *Year-Book* for 1929-30. The *Totalizator Act* 1930, as amended by the *Totalizator Act* 1934 provides that any racing club using a totalizator shall deduct as commission 10 per cent. out of the moneys paid into the totalizator in respect of each race or division of a race and that 50 per cent. of the amount so deducted, where the races are held on courses within a radius of 20 miles of Melbourne and 25 per cent. in respect of races held on courses situated elsewhere in Victoria, shall be paid into the Consolidated Revenue and transferred therefrom each year to the Hospitals and Charities Fund. Since the date of the operation of the Act, the sum of £697,506 has been transferred to the Fund. The annual transfers were as follow:—1930-31, £8; 1931-32, £50,519; 1932-33, £110,184; 1933-34, £123,312; 1934-35, £124,251; 1935-36, £141,430; and 1936-37, £147,802. Loans and grants amounting to £28,173 were made to institutions from National Recovery Loan Fund 1936-37 for building purposes.

When the Board commenced its operations in 1922 only one country hospital had maternity wards. In 1936 the hospitals which had such wards (public section only) numbered 28.

The Board has framed regulations in regard to Community Hospitals. A brief statement of these regulations appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 232.

In the metropolis the scheme for the admission of intermediate and private patients was initiated by the committee of the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital for Women and Children. At this institution a new wing, named the "Jessie McPherson Community Hospital" was opened for reception of such patients on 1st December, 1931.

The Alfred Hospital was the next institution to provide accommodation under this scheme when "Hamilton Russell House" was opened on 22nd May, 1933.

At St. Vincent's Hospital one floor of a section of the building was set aside for this purpose and patients were first admitted on 1st February, 1934.

Outside the metropolitan area there are 49 general hospitals, of which 37, during the year 1936-37, admitted intermediate and private patients in accordance with the regulations.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, the Alfred, and St. Vincent's Hospitals. The social services rendered through each of these hospitals is briefly described in the following paragraphs :—

Royal Melbourne Hospital. The origin of this institution belongs to the earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year-Books* for 1915-16 and 1916-17 contain a statement of the circumstances associated with the foundation of the hospital in 1846, and a reference to its rebuilding in 1910. During the year 1934 Their Majesties the King and Queen bestowed their patronage on this Hospital.

The need for providing increased accommodation at this general hospital and for improvement in its equipment has been apparent for a number of years. With the object of increasing and improving the valuable social service rendered by this institution, legislative proposals were submitted in 1935 by the Government to Parliament. These proposals are embodied in the *Royal Melbourne Hospital Act* 1935. This Act provides for the granting to a corporation known as the Royal Melbourne Hospital of a piece of land consisting of nearly 11 acres situated in the city of Melbourne, and it authorizes the corporation to erect on the land granted a general hospital and other buildings, and to install such equipment as is required. Power is given to the corporation to sell the land, about 5 acres, upon which the existing hospital is built, also the buildings thereon, and to apply the proceeds of such sale for or towards the cost of erecting and equipping the new general hospital.

It has always been the most important of the general hospitals of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain normally 378 beds. In the year

1936-1937 the number of in-patients treated was 7,717, the daily average number being 403, which was 25 above the number the hospital is designed to accommodate. During the year 50,145 persons were treated in the out-patients and casualty departments. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 242,206.

The usefulness of this hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the services provided. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1937, numbered 400,725, and the out-patients, 1,954,244.

In 1936-37 the receipts of the Maintenance Account amounted to £120,854, the Government grant for maintenance was £40,902, the revenue derived from municipal grants was £2,053; annual subscriptions amounted to £6,926; donations to £7,975; bequests to £19,028; Hospital Sunday collections to £1,615; Lord Mayor's Fund allocation to £1,277; visitors' fees to £4,498; payments and contributions by in-door patients to £10,891; and out-patients' fees to £12,561; interest yielded a revenue of £11,986; and £1,142 was received from all other sources.

The total expenditure of the Maintenance Account was £117,363.

The hospital is also a training school for nurses, and has a nursing staff of 247. Attached to the hospital is the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine, which is endowed by the Trustees of the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust. The Institute has, by the result of its research work, provided valuable assistance to medical science.

To relieve the pressure on the general hospitals in the City of Melbourne, the Convalescent Hospital at Caulfield was established in 1925. The management is undertaken by the committee of the Royal Melbourne Hospital. In seven wards there are 175 beds. During the year 1936-37 the number of patients treated was 2,820, the daily average number being 158. The total expenditure for the year was £19,413.

This hospital, which was opened in May, 1871, is situated in the municipality of Melbourne. The area of land reserved for the purposes of this hospital is 13 acres. In 1921 an extensive scheme of building expansion was approved, subject to funds becoming available. Since then remarkable progress has taken place. On the 22nd May, 1933, the Hamilton Russell House was opened with a capacity of 40 beds for the reception of private and intermediate patients. This branch is a new feature of general hospital work in this State. The hospital is recognized by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and is also a training school for nurses. The following particulars relate to the public section only:—On 30th June, 1937, there were 340 beds and cots in the Institution. The total number of in-patients who received treatment during the year 1936-37 was 6,728, and in the out-patients and casualty departments, 37,920 persons were treated.

**Alfred
Hospital.**

The number of attendances of patients in these departments was 190,288. The ordinary income of the Maintenance Account during the year 1936-37 amounted to £86,615. The principal items of receipts were:—Government grants, £35,385; municipal grants, £1,787; private contributions, £3,132; special donations and bequests, £12,343; Hospital Sunday collections, £1,305; Lord Mayor's Fund, £1,022; in-door patients' fees, £9,057; out-door patients' fees, £7,871; general clinic fees, £1,329; profits from pay beds, £1,250; visitors' contributions, £3,724; proceeds of entertainments, £855; transfers from other accounts, £2,798; sales refunds, &c., £2,697; interest from investments, £1,441; and miscellaneous receipts, £619. The total expenditure on maintenance was £79,506.

This institution was founded by the Religious Congregation of the Sisters of Charity from St. Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, in November, 1893. The beginning was humble—fourteen beds in a small cottage. Within a few months a terrace of houses was secured which increased the accommodation for patients to 36 beds.

So much appreciated was the work of the medical and the nursing staffs that in November, 1905, the rear section of the new hospital was opened with 120 beds. From this date, events moved rapidly.

In 1914 a new Out-patients' Department and Nurses' Home was erected. As this building was made possible mainly by the generous efforts of the United Ancient Order of Druids, it is known as the Druids' Wing.

In 1924, St. Vincent's was recognized by the Royal College of Surgeons, England, and the conjoint Board of Examiners, England, as a Hospital at which clinical work might be done by those entering for the degree of F.R.C.S. and F.R.C.P. London and England.

In October, 1928, the foundation stone of the new building was laid, and on the 8th December, 1934, the New Wing of the hospital was opened. This addition, which created a heavy financial burden, increased the normal accommodation from 120 to 245 beds, and 60 beds for Intermediate patients. The hospital is one of the clinical schools for medical students of the University of Melbourne and a training school for nurses. During the year 1936-37 the number of in-patients treated was 4,904 and of out-patients and casualties 29,551. The total amount received by the Maintenance Account during 1936-37 was £54,558. The Government Grant was £23,416, municipal grants amounted to £666, annual subscriptions to £997, allocation from Hospital Sunday and Lord Mayor's Fund was £1,256, donations and collections to £1,758, Auxiliaries' efforts to £2,782, proceeds of entertainments to £337, in-patients' contributions to £9,689, out-patients' contributions to £7,928, visitors' fees to £3,056, interest to £413, bequests to £1,126, and other receipts to £1,134. The total expenditure on maintenance during 1936-37 was £52,285.

Other Statements showing the nature of the work performed by other hospitals, societies, &c., are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 568 to 582, and 586.

HEALTH ACT 1919.

The main features of this Act, now included in the Consolidated Act of 1928, are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 383 to 385.

Further provisions relating to public health are contained in the Health Act of 1931 and of 1935.

Under the provisions of the Act of 1931, every municipal council is forbidden to give its consent to the erection of any abattoir or slaughter-house until the plans and specifications have been approved by the medical officer of health and the municipal engineer. This Act repeals the provisions of the Principal Act as to compulsory vaccination and further provides that when any food or drug in connexion with which there is a contravention of the Health Acts is sold in an unopened package the manufacturer whose name appears on such package shall be the person liable on conviction to the prescribed penalty. If the name of the manufacturer does not so appear then the person who sold the food or drug or the person who supplied the same to the vendor may be liable to prosecution.

The Act of 1935 provides for the appointment of a Plumbers and Gas-fitters Board, with power to appoint examiners for applicants for registration as plumbers in respect of plumbing work of any prescribed class or classes or as gas-fitters. Every unregistered person is forbidden to undertake plumbing work of any prescribed class or gas-fitting, including the installation and repairing of gas bath heaters, except any apprentice, improver, or assistant who is employed under the direct supervision or control of a registered plumber of the appropriate prescribed class or a gas-fitter.

This Act also provides that the managing authority of any hospital receiving aid from the State, and the council of any municipality or combination of councils may, and, when required by the Commission of Public Health, shall enter into an agreement for the accommodation, treatment, and maintenance of persons suffering from infectious disease.

Every manufactory of margarine is required to be registered. Margarine includes any solid or semi-solid substance made from animal or vegetable fats or oils or any combination thereof which is used or capable of being used as a substitute for butter, but does not include butter, dripping, or lard. Margarine for sale otherwise than to any prescribed class of persons, i.e., biscuit manufacturers, &c., shall be

of a prescribed colour. Uncoloured margarine shall not be packed or sold in packages or lumps of less than fourteen pounds in weight.

Every sewerage authority is forbidden to allow any cattle, which are grazing on or are upon any land used by such sewerage authority for the purposes of depositing or spreading night soil or sewage, to be removed from such land unless the cattle are forthwith destroyed and disposed of otherwise than for human consumption.

The owner or occupier (other than a sewerage authority) of any land used for the purposes of depositing or spreading night-soil or sewage who permits any cattle to graze on or be upon such land is guilty of an offence against the Principal Act.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

With the definite object of obtaining improved results in the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, a State Director of Tuberculosis was appointed in 1927. Since the appointment of the Director a new feature in the control and cure of this disease has been the establishment of tuberculosis bureaux in the metropolis and provincial centres of the State. With the co-operation of the Bureaux, a larger proportion of cases in the early stages of the disease has been admitted to the Sanatoria. This has resulted in a reduction in the period of stay in Sanatorium, and in the consequent utilization of the available number of beds to a greater extent for the benefit of the tuberculous members of the population.

In 1933 a new Sanatorium (Gresswell) at Mont Park was opened and accommodation provided for 144 male patients. With the opening of this Sanatorium the Janefield and Amherst Sanatoria were closed. During the year 1935-36 the State Sanatoria Board has carried out many building and other improvements at Gresswell Sanatorium and an X-ray plant, purchased out of moneys provided by a bequest, has been installed at the Greenvale Sanatorium. A branch bureau, under the clinical charge of the District Health Officer, was opened in Ballarat in December, 1934. The Gresswell and Heatherton Sanatoria are registered as part-time and special training schools for nurses.

Plans for a new Sanatorium for women at Greenvale are being drawn up and it is hoped to commence the construction of an administration block in the near future.

A grant of £5,000 has been given for a new building at Royal Park Benevolent Home for the reception of 20 indigent male patients. This should be completed before the end of this financial year.

The following table shows the accommodation, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in sanatoria during the twelve months ended 30th June 1937 :—

Sanatorium.	Accommodation.		Admissions.		Discharges.		Deaths.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Greenvale .. ..	..	100	..	202	2	169	..	28
Austin	71	44	143	87	77	43	67	44
Heatherton .. ..	..	124	..	156	..	119	..	39
Royal Park	16	..	17	..	13	..	4	..
Gresswell	144	..	292	..	254	..	23	..
Bendigo Chalet ..	12	12	18	19	10	14	5	4
Total	243	280	470	464	356	345	99	115

The Branch Bureaux at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Prahran have done useful work, and work at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau has further increased during the year. Attendances at this Bureau were 12,319 in 1935-36 and 13,765 in 1936-37. The work of the Bureaux is much appreciated by general practitioners, from whom many encouraging messages have been received. In recent years an increasing number of patients has been sent to the Bureau for examination and report by doctors in private practice. During the year ended 30th June, 1937, 10,448 domiciliary visits to tuberculous patients were made by the seven nurses attached to the various Bureaux.

The following statement illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 30th June, 1937 :—

	Metropolitan—				Country—	
	Central.		Prahran.		Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.	
	M	F	M.	F.	M.	F.
New cases applying	1,032	1,017	49	75	293	236
Re-attendance	4,046	7,670	146	231	920	1,309
Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions ..	442	452	14	15	33	41
Contacts—						
New—Examined	334	377	33	44	123	145
Old—Re-examined	347	395	9	8	127	217
Found Tuberculous	18	25	..	1	..	..
Infecting Cases	332		18	22	203	
Visits to Patients' Homes—						
By Medical Officers	148		2	1	22	24
By Nurses	3,241	3,738	379	372	1,490	1,241
X-Ray Screen Examinations	608	866	2	4	..	6
X-Ray Film Examinations	681	1,040	10	17	308	360
Pneumothorax Refills	331	589	..	..	28	171

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during the period of twelve months ended on 30th June in each of the eleven years 1927 to 1937 was as follows:—

Year.	Bureau.					Total.
	Central.	Prahran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Ballarat.	
1927 ..	596	..	..	..	..	596
1928 ..	1,115	..	..	..	..	1,115
1929 ..	3,309	..	..	..	..	3,309
1930 ..	6,088	177	..	..	..	6,265
1931 ..	8,212	316	512	..	..	9,040
1932 ..	9,235	285	543	164	..	10,227
1933 ..	9,527	370	838	944	..	11,679
1934 ..	10,370	365	939	1,028	..	12,702
1935 ..	10,836	474	1,204	926	439	13,879
1936 ..	12,319	431	1,184	731	654	15,319
1937 ..	13,765	501	1,064	959	735	17,024

It will be seen from the first column of the above table that the attendances at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau are constantly increasing. Another building is in course of construction to provide additional accommodation.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE.

Department
of Mental
Hygiene.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1935 and 1936:—

PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 31ST DECEMBER, 1935 AND 1936.

	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1935.	1936.	
In State Hospitals	5,978	6,127	+ 149
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals ..	792	814	+ 22
Boarded Out	209	203	- 6
In Licensed Houses	58	47	- 11
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses ..	22	19	- 3
Total Number of Registered Insane ..	7,059	7,210	+ 151
In Receiving Institutions	117	115	- 2
Total	7,176	7,325	+ 149
Voluntary Boarders	147	156	+ 9
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers (not included in other statistics)	225	230	+ 5

There was an increase in the year 1936 compared with 1935, in the number of certified patients in State Mental Hospitals. The number of certified insane in the State at the end of 1936, proportionately to the population was 1 in 257. At 31st December, 1936, there were 230 military mental cases known to the Department, and 156 voluntary boarders in various institutions. The boarding out of patients is being extended to certain benevolent homes in country districts.

The number of admissions to Mental Hospitals for each of the years 1932 to 1936 was as follows:—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1932	407	319	726	25	31	56	782
1933	368	411	779	37	32	69	848
1934	357	425	782	40	40	80	862
1935	380	417	797	42	56	98	895
1936	379	403	782	41	53	94	876

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1932 to 1936 are given below:—

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1932	159	176	335	218	176	394	729
1933	148	185	333	230	206	436	769
1934	149	191	340	196	204	400	740
1935	152	214	366	245	218	463	829
1936	138	180	318	213	177	390	708

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

There were at the end of 1936 two industrial and four 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 depots, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to

Neglected and reformatory children.

other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the State for those inmates who are wards of the Children's Welfare Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1936, numbered 5,607—5,409 neglected and 198 reformatory children—and there were 9 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 five years 1932-1936 :—

WARDS OF CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1932 TO 1936.

Year.	NUMBER OF WARDS OF CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT 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.	
1932 ...	3,330	1,566	270	1,116	...	6,282
1933 ...	3,151	1,301	299	1,265	...	6,016
1934 ...	2,692	1,249	340	1,522	...	5,803
1935 ...	2,409	1,038	361	1,680	...	5,488
1936 ...	2,218	1,048	359	1,784	...	5,409

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.	
1932 ...	102	103	25	1	...	231
1933 ...	100	99	20	...	...	219
1934 ...	96	110	19	...	...	225
1935 ...	87	86	23	...	...	196
1936 ...	98	73	27	...	...	198

* Under the provisions of section 9 of the *Children's Maintenance Act 1919*, children who had previously been committed as "neglected" children and boarded out to their mothers, were discharged in 1919 as wards of the State, but payments for their maintenance were continued to the mothers. At the end of 1936 there were 7,870 such children.

Children boarded out, &c. The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, which furnish reports to the Department as to their general condition. The rate paid by the State to persons accepting charge of these children is 12s. 6d. per week for each child under the age of 18 months, and 7s. per week for each child over that age. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

MAINTENANCE ACT 1928.

This Act consolidates the law relating to the maintenance of destitute or deserted wives and children. A statement of its provisions in respect of maintenance of children without sufficient means of support is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 396 and 396. For the twelve months ended 31st December, 1936, assistance was granted under the Maintenance Act in respect of 2,249 children, and at the end of the year there were 7,870 children boarded out to their mothers, an increase of 540 as compared with the number at the end of the previous year, viz., 7,330.

The following statement shows the number of wards of the State and of children boarded out with their mothers for the years 1932 to 1936 inclusive :—

WARDS OF STATE AND CHILDREN BOARDED OUT WITH MOTHERS, 1932 TO 1936.

Year.	Children Boarded Out at End of Year.				Other Wards of State.	Total Wards of State and Children Boarded Out.
	To Foster Mothers.	With Mothers.	Total.	Cost of Maintenance During Year.		
				£		
1932 ..	3,330	9,538	12,868	293,001	3,183	16,051
1933 ..	3,151	8,337	11,488	249,738	3,084	14,572
1934 ..	2,692	7,300	9,992	218,016	3,336	13,328
1935 ..	2,409	7,330	9,739	212,192	3,275	13,014
1936 ..	2,218	7,870	10,088	221,746	3,191	13,279

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The expenditure by the State for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1936 to £250,027, and that for reformatory school children to £4,597; the expenses of administration amounted to £16,935, making a total gross expenditure of £271,559. A sum of £8,470 was received from parents for maintenance, and of £296 from other sources, making the net expenditure £262,792. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1936, was 5,409; of this total, 2,218 were maintained in foster homes, 210 were in Government receiving depots, 1,555 were in other institutions, 359 were at service earning their own living, 19 were in hospitals, and 1,048 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1936, was 198. Of this number, 98 were maintained in private schools, 27 were in service earning their

own living, and 73 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children during the ten years, 1927-1936, is shown in the statement which follows:—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF WARDS OF CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT AND REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1927 TO 1936.

Year.			Year.		
Net Expenditure.			Net Expenditure.		
£			£		
1927	..	368,172	1932	..	332,886
1928	..	417,361	1933	..	286,254
1929	..	429,098	1934	..	251,587
1930	..	413,439	1935	..	251,614
1931	..	382,968	1936	..	262,792

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

Part I., Division 8; of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1928 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council. A statement showing the names of the approved societies appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 246.

The number of children under supervision of these societies on 31st December, 1935, was 1,636. The admissions during the year 1936 under various headings were as follows:—Court Committals, 87; Transfer of Guardianship, 107; Voluntary Admissions, 562. The number of children under supervision of the societies on 31st December, 1936, was 1,636.

Children in Registered Homes.

On 31st December, 1936, there were 174 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of the *Children's Welfare Act*. There were 8 deaths of such children during the year. The work of inspection of registered homes is performed by 4 female inspectors. During the year 83 children, in respect of whom the weekly payments for maintenance by the responsible persons had fallen into arrears, became wards of the *Children's Welfare Department* by the operation of section 103 of the Act.

Orphans in Victoria, Census, 1933.

Particulars of orphanhood of children in Victoria under sixteen years of age were collected at the date of the last Census (30th June, 1933). The Census disclosed that there were in the State 503,025 children under that age, of whom 466,065 had both parents living, while in the case of 7,342 children the

condition in respect of parentage was not stated. The particulars, as enumerated, are shown in the following table:—

CHILDREN IN VICTORIA UNDER SIXTEEN YEARS OF AGE—CENSUS, 30TH JUNE, 1933.

Sex of Children.	Orphans.				Both Parents Living.	Not Stated.	Total Children.
	Both Parents Dead.	Father Dead.	Mother Dead.	Total.			
Male ..	924	9,216	4,941	15,081	237,437	3,780	256,298
Female ..	778	8,796	4,963	14,537	228,628	3,562	246,727
Total ..	1,702	18,012	9,904	29,618	466,065	7,342	503,025

Widows' Pensions and Child Endowment.

A Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly was appointed by Parliament on 23rd July, 1936, to inquire into and report upon the question of the establishment in Victoria of a scheme to provide for the payment of Widows' Pensions and Child Endowment.

A progress report, containing the Committee's conclusions and recommendations, was issued on 10th December, 1936. The Committee recommended that—

- (a) The average weekly payment to children boarded out to their mothers by the Children's Welfare Department be increased from 7s. 1d. to 9s. It was estimated that this increase would amount to £38,000 per annum.
- (b) A weekly allowance of a maximum amount of 10s., and averaging 8s. be paid to widows who are, or may be, in receipt of assistance from the Children's Welfare Department, and that the payment of such allowance be restricted to those deemed eligible by the Department. The payment of this allowance it is estimated would amount to about £28,000 annually.
- (c) Although of the opinion that the responsibility for the payment of Widows' Pensions belongs to the Federal Parliament, the recommendations are made because of the necessity of immediate relief being provided pending the establishment by the Federal Legislature of the proposed scheme of National Insurance.

Since the abovementioned report the following action has been taken :—

- (a) The cases of mothers who are afforded aid for their children under the Maintenance Act are periodically reviewed and in accordance with the Select Committee's recommendations, the rate of payment in many cases has been increased.
- (b) Part three of the Maintenance Act has been amended to provide that a widow who is afforded aid for her children, or is entitled to such assistance may, if she be without sufficient means of support, apply for an allowance for herself, and that the rate of payment to her shall be a minimum of 6s., and a maximum of 10s. per week. This amendment has not yet been made effective, but is to be made so on a date to be fixed by proclamation.

INFANT WELFARE AND BUSH NURSING.

With the object of reducing the wastage of child life due to preventable causes, infant welfare centres have been established throughout Victoria since 1917. They are maintained by various municipalities, which are aided by a Government subsidy on a £1 for £1 basis up to £100 per annum for each full-time, and proportionately for each part-time, nurse employed. On the 30th June, 1937, there were 105 municipalities maintaining 175 centres. Of these municipalities, 29 in the metropolitan area were supporting 70 centres, and 76 in the country were supporting 105 centres. During the year ended 30th June, 1937, the number of individual infants who were given attention at centres was 47,115, compared with 42,403 in 1936. Their attendances numbered 491,047 in 1937, and 452,612 in 1936, and the nurses made 70,943 and 69,047 visits in 1937 and 1936 respectively. The number of nurses actually employed in infant welfare centre work was 104, but, including infant welfare nurses in the Public Health Department and those attached to voluntary organizations and training schools, there were 133 in all.

The following statement gives particulars of infant welfare centres for the year 1917-18 (the first year in operation) and for the five years 1932-33 to 1936-37 :—

—	1917-18.	1932-33.	1933-34.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
Nurses in centres ..	1	92	94	95	100	104
Home visits ..	1,407	65,744	68,117	66,749	69,047	70,943
Total individual children	913	35,647	37,999	39,147	42,403	47,115
Total attendances ..	4,116	403,205	414,007	421,390	452,612	491,047

There are eight infant welfare and mothercraft training schools for nurses. Of these schools two train infant welfare and mothercraft nurses, two train infant welfare nurses only, and four train mothercraft nurses only. These schools, which are as follow, are supported by voluntary organizations and church bodies :—

Foundling Hospital, East Melbourne	}	Training Infant Welfare and Mothercraft Nurses
Presbyterian Babies' Home ..		
Victorian Baby Health Centres As- sociation Training School	}	Training Infant Welfare Nurses
Tweddle Baby Hospital		
Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows	}	Training Mothercraft Nurses
Methodist Babies' Home		
Bethany Babies' Home		
St. Gabriel's Church of England Babies' Home		

There were 565 infant welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 30th June, 1937, and 403 mothercraft nurses eligible to obtain the Public Health Department certificate of competency.

There are eleven crèches or day nurseries supported by voluntary effort and money derived from Trust funds. The children are admitted as a rule from the age of six weeks to six years. The usual charge is 3d. to 4d. per child per day, varying with different crèches. The daily payment includes provision for three meals and a bath. The total attendances for the year ended June, 1937, were 79,257.

There are bush nursing centres distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At the end of June, 1937, the bush nursing centres numbered 70, inclusive of 46 bush nursing hospitals, and the bush nurses numbered 104 on permanent staff and 10 on relieving staff, the majority of whom hold infant welfare as well as general and midwifery certificates.

**Bush
Nursing.**

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS AND SOCIAL ORGANISATIONS.

The Lord Mayor's Fund, which was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930, was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities. The Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund was formed in 1873 and remained in operation until the year 1923, when the Hospital Saturday section was merged with the Lord Mayor's Fund, the Hospital Sunday section remaining a separate fund, but being carried on in close co-operation with the Lord Mayor's Fund. Since the date of the inauguration of the Lord Mayor's Fund subscriptions and donations amounting to £972,283 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £154,431.

**Lord Mayor's
Fund and
Hospital
Sunday Fund.**

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1923-24 to 1936-37 were as follows:—

Year.	Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
1923-24 to 1926-27	159,334	51,483	210,817
1927-28	60,015	13,277	73,292
1928-29	69,708	12,039	81,747
1929-30	65,458	11,596	77,054
1930-31	95,416	12,064	107,480
1931-32	70,606	9,500	80,106
1932-33	80,716	10,170	90,886
1933-34	93,554	8,275	101,829
1934-35	78,717	8,633	87,350
1935-36	93,045	8,551	101,596
1936-37	105,714	8,843	114,557

St. John Ambulance Association.

The work carried on by this Association is referred to in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and the injured. During the past year 3,034 students have been instructed in first aid and home nursing, of whom 2,126 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association, in 1883, 64,243 persons have been awarded certificates. The Association medallion has been awarded to 4,916 students.

Victorian Civil Ambulance Service.

This service attended to 17,877 calls, of which 3,886 were connected with accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1937; the mileage travelled was 180,288. In 4,294 cases no fee was paid. The decentralisation of the service has commenced by the inauguration of Ambulance Stations at Prahran, Canterbury, and Footscray, with the intention of extending same to all suburban areas.

In addition, 23 Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, and 68 stretchers and first-aid outfits have been supplied to police stations in smaller centres.

Charity Organization Society.

A statement of the objects of this society appears in the *Year-Book* 1916-17, page 583.

The income for the year ended 30th June, 1937, was £5,589; private subscriptions amounted to £1,592, and all other receipts to £3,997. The total expenditure during the year was £5,647, of which £2,888 was expended in relief and £2,759 in administration and on buildings. At the end of the year the amount of capital invested was £8,176, and of cash on hand £1,627.

Royal Humane Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria Humane Society." Its objects are given in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, pages 236-237.

Royal Life Saving Society.

With a desire to minimize the great loss of life from drowning, a society was established in Melbourne in 1904 entitled the "Royal Life Saving Society." A statement of the objects of the society appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 237.

During the year 1936-37 the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 1,964, which included 2 Diplomas and 96 Awards of Merit. The total income of the Centre for 1936-37 was £1,006, and the expenditure £961.

Society for the Protection of Animals.

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1937, 3,866 cases were dealt with by it, of which 1,141 were connected with cruelty to horses, and 1,759 to dogs. There were 23 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 £2,108, and the expenditure to £2,002.

National Safety Council of Australia.

The National Safety Council of Australia was founded in Melbourne in 1927 for the purpose of developing, mainly by means of education, safety on the road, at work, in the home, and in the air. Its activities have developed in other directions, wherever the need of reducing the toll of accidents has been shown. The Council is governed by an Executive assisted by traffic, factories and workshops, air safety, and film committees.

Junior Safety Councils have been formed in the schools for developing a safety conscience among children. The children themselves are officers of these Junior Safety Councils, and patrol the roads in the neighbourhood of the School to conduct the scholars across in safety.

Victorian Mining Accident Relief Fund.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in a mine at Creswick caused the deaths of 22 miners. 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. At the end of 1936, there remained on the Fund one widow receiving an allowance of 15s. per week. In addition to this allowance, grants amounting to £891 were made during the year 1936 to persons permanently disabled as the result of mining accidents, and to relatives of persons who were killed or injured by any such accident. The investments of the Fund on 31st December, 1936, amounted to £24,684.

Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund. A statement on the establishment of this Fund appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 438.

Including the moneys received by the Accidents Committee of each mine, the total revenue of the Fund for the year ended 31st December, 1936, was £4,191. The details of the revenue are as follow:—Interest, £1,246; contributions by employees, £1,288; by the mine-owners, £668; by the Government, £685; and miscellaneous receipts, £304. The total expenditure in connexion with the Fund during 1936 was £4,176. The items of expenditure were—allowances to beneficiaries £3,886, and cost of administration £290. The investments of the Fund at 31st December, 1936, amounted to £33,190.

During the year 1936, there were 637 accidents at the mines, two of which were fatal. From the date of the establishment of the Fund on 2nd April, 1910, to 31st December, 1936, the number of accidents recorded was 10,302—64 fatal and 10,238 non-fatal.

Lord Mayor's 1937 Coal Mining Accident Relief Fund. On 15th February, 1937, an explosion of gas in the State Coal Mine, Wonthaggi, caused the deaths of thirteen men. A public appeal resulted in the subscription of £27,863 towards a Relief Fund which was supplemented by an amount of £1,259 received from the Wonthaggi Local Fund, making a total of £29,122 available for distribution among the thirteen widows and eighteen dependent children of the deceased.

From the Fund the sum of £100 was paid to each family and arrangements were made for the payment of £2 per week, until death or re-marriage, to each widow, together with 15s. per week in respect of each child until it attains the age of eighteen years.

The balance remaining in the Fund will enable assistance to be given in special cases, such as medical attention to widows and children and educational assistance to children.

Queen's Fund. This Fund was instituted 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 provided that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1936-37 was 89, to whom £838 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £140. The accumulated fund on 30th June, 1937, was £19,331. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the Fund (£939) for the year 1936-37 an amount of 188 was received from the trustees of the Walter and Elizabeth Hall Trust and distributed to governesses, nurses, and others in similar positions who from age, misfortune, or infirmity were unable to earn their living.

EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE OF VICTORIA ON SOCIAL SERVICES.

Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue and Loan Funds of the State of Victoria on the undermentioned social services during the years 1934-35, 1935-36, and 1936-37, exclusive of interest on loans (other than for unemployment relief) raised for such purposes, amounted to £8,185,164, £9,447,171, and £8,841,364 respectively. The amount so expended on each service is shown in the following statement:—

Social Service.	1934-35.	1935-36.	1936-37.
	£	£	£
Unemployment Relief	3,397,362	4,308,903	3,322,046
Education	2,557,909	2,758,781	2,967,475
Police	665,750	714,097	794,430
Mental Hygiene	401,754	459,898	492,267
Charities	437,046	462,861	475,729
Children's Welfare	261,497	265,315	277,278
Law and Justice	350,052	361,741	389,111
Health and Recreation	87,991	88,382	91,954
Regulation of Conditions of Labour	25,803	27,693	31,074
Total	8,185,164	9,447,171	8,841,364

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE IN VICTORIA ON CERTAIN SOCIAL SERVICES AND REPATRIATION.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an act passed in 1908 and amending acts. The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains, on pages 591 to 597, information relating to the persons entitled to receive them. The commencing age for old-age pensions is 65 years in the case of men (60 years where a man is permanently incapacitated for work) and 60 years in the case of women.

The *Financial Relief Act* 1933 provides that the maximum rate of pension shall be reviewed annually and determined on the weighted average retail price index number for food and groceries for the six capital cities of the States for a prescribed period. The maximum rate of pension paid as from 24th September, 1936, was £49 8s. per annum, or 19s. per week.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1937, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 24,575; women, 38,180; total, 62,755. Invalid pensioners—men, 7,790; women, 10,492; total, 18,282.

Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act.

Pensioners, 1927-28 to 1936-37.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year and the amount expended each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1937, are shown in the following statement:—

**OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA,
1927-28 TO 1936-37.**

Financial Year.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.*
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
1927-28	40,642	16,398	57,040	£ 2,917,180
1928-29	42,795	17,557	60,352	3,004,907
1929-30	45,495	18,641	64,136	3,182,375
1930-31	49,999	19,925	69,924	3,445,803
1931-32	52,795	20,785	73,580	3,255,709
1932-33	49,449	20,191	69,640	3,059,773
1933-34	57,253	15,193	72,446	3,053,247
1934-35	58,059	17,253	75,312	3,213,895
1935-36	60,548	17,741	78,289	3,463,701
1936-37	62,755	18,282	81,037	3,750,068

* Includes payment of pensions to eligible inmates of Benevolent Asylums and Hospitals. On 30th June, 1937, there were respectively 1,443 and 374 such pensions in force. The weekly rate of pension paid was 4s. from 8th October, 1925; 5s. 6d. from 4th October, 1928; 5s. from 23rd July, 1931; 3s. 9d. from 13th October, 1932; 5s. from 26th October, 1933; and 5s. 6d. from 24th September, 1936.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

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 on and after 10th October, 1912. Under the *Commonwealth Financial Emergency Act 1931*, assented to on 17th July, 1931, the allowance was reduced to £4 and became payable only if the income of the claimant and her husband for the twelve months preceding the date of the birth did not exceed £260. The *Commonwealth Financial Emergency Act 1932*, to which assent was given on 3rd October, 1932, placed a further restriction on claims for allowances by reducing the income limitation from £260 to £208 per annum. By the *Commonwealth Financial Relief Act 1934*, assented to on 1st August, 1934, the Maternity Allowance Act was amended—

- (a) to increase the income limit of £208 per annum with a maximum of £299 per annum by £13 per annum (5s. per week) in respect of each previous child under the age of fourteen years living at the date of birth of the child in respect of whom the claim is made; and
- (b) to increase the rate of Maternity Allowance by 5s. in respect of each previous child under fourteen years of age living at the date of birth of the child in respect of whom the claim is made with a maximum amount of allowance of £5.

The *Commonwealth Financial Relief Act (No. 2) 1936*, assented to on 21st September, 1936, further amended the Maternity Allowance Act by:—

- (a) increasing the income limit of £208 to £221 per annum where there is no previous surviving issue under fourteen years of age, the additional allowance of £13 per annum in respect of each previous surviving child being retained up to a maximum income of £312 per annum instead of £299 per annum;
- (b) increasing the rate of allowance to £4 10s. in cases where there is no previous surviving issue of the claimant under fourteen years of age and to £5 in every case in which there is any such previous surviving issue.

The number of claims granted in Victoria to 30th June, 1937, was 773,305, and the total of the allowances paid in the State to that date was £3,772,306.

For the year ended 30th June, 1937, the number of claims granted was 20,350, and the amount paid in allowances was £94,988.

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors and nurses who served in the Great War. Its objects were to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able, in consequence of war disabilities, to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment, also artificial limbs and appliances, in respect of disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

Activities of Department.

On pages 407 and 408 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 appears a statement of the activities of the Department.

The *Year-Book* for 1920-21 contains, on pages 383 to 385, an epitome of the main work of the Department, also particulars of the sustenance rates granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations, and of the rates of pension payable to ex-members of the Forces and their dependants. The sustenance and some of the pension rates, however, have since been altered.

An Act for the provision of war pensions was passed in 1914, and the following is a brief history of war pension legislation since the first Act was passed. The *War Pensions Act 1914* (No. 34 of 1914) was the first Commonwealth provision for payment of war pensions and came into operation on the 21st December, 1914. The maximum amount of pension payable under that Act to a private was £52 per annum. Higher rates operated

Legislation and Alteration of Pension Rates.

for higher ranks. The *War Pensions Act 1914-1915* (No. 28 of 1915) was assented to on 2nd September, 1915; the scale of pensions was not increased, but certain other dependants became eligible for pensions. The *War Pensions Act 1914-1916* (No. 25 of 1916) consolidated the two former Acts and increased the maximum pension to a private to £3 per fortnight (£78 per annum) with higher rates for higher ranks. Scale rates of pension were definitely laid down in a new Schedule to the Act for specific disabilities, such as in cases of amputation of limbs &c.

The *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act 1920* (No. 6 of 1920) repealed the former Pensions Acts, and operating from 1st July, 1920, provided a flat rate of £4 4s. per fortnight for the 100 per cent. pension for all ranks up to and including that of lieutenant. The rates for ranks higher than that of lieutenant were not increased. The main additional increases were—

- (a) a pension up to £4 4s. per fortnight to widows with dependent children, or, if without dependent children, whose circumstances warrant the increased amount. The invariable practice is to grant the full £4 4s. per fortnight to widows with dependent children;
- (b) a Special Rate pension of £8 per fortnight to blinded and to totally and permanently incapacitated soldiers; and
- (c) a Special Rate pension, not exceeding £8 per fortnight to tubercular soldiers, subject to certain conditions.

An amending Act was assented to on the 17th December, 1921, providing for the payment of pension to the full degree of a man's disability in cases where a pre-war disability has been aggravated "to any material degree" by war service. Under previous legislation a pension was payable only with respect to the degree of disability actually caused by war service.

The *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Amending Act*, assented to on the 18th October, 1922 (No. 23 of 1922), made provision for certain "amounts" and "allowances" to limbless soldiers (in addition to existing rates of war pensions) ranging from 7s. to 76s. per fortnight. In certain double amputation cases, an allowance for an attendant was provided at 40s. or 80s. per fortnight, according to the nature of the case. An attendant's allowance was also payable to "spinal cases" at £2 per fortnight. A Special Rate pension of £8 per fortnight was provided to those soldiers who, although not totally blind, had no useful vision.

During 1925, the Government decided that a permanent pension of not less than £2 2s. per week should be paid to all "Members" proved to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis on or subsequent to 1st July, 1925, as the result of war service, or as the result of a pre-existing condition having been materially aggravated by war service. On 30th September, 1925, a Regulation was gazetted, operative from 1st July, 1925, providing for the grant of an allowance (in

addition to pension) not exceeding seven shillings and sixpence per week to a soldier who is in receipt of pension under the Fourth Schedule to the Act with respect to loss of vision in one eye. Both these provisions were made statutory by incorporation in the Amending Act of 1934.

The general reduction of expenditure provided by the *Financial Emergency Act* 1931 applied also to War Pensions. No reductions, however, were made in the rate of pension payment to incapacitated soldiers. The widow and children of a soldier whose death was due to war service and the widowed mother (who became widows either prior to, or within three years after, the death of the sons) of any deceased unmarried member of the Forces, were also exempted from reductions, the necessary economies being effected in payments to other classes of war pensioners.

The maximum rate of pension payable on behalf of the child of an incapacitated soldier was reduced to 12s. per fortnight and a wife married or a child born to an incapacitated member of the Forces subsequent to 1st October, 1931, was excluded from pension benefits.

Considerable modifications of the reductions were included in the Financial Relief Acts of 1933, 1934, and 1936, and some classes of pensions were fully restored.

During 1934 the Second Schedule to the Act was amended to include Attendant's allowances payable to blinded soldiers and for the eligibility of such allowances in consequence of injury or disease affecting the cerebro-spinal system or disease causing incapacity similar in effect thereto.

A further amendment provided that a wife married, or a child born, to a member of the Forces after 1st October, 1931, shall be deemed to be dependants and eligible for pension benefits if the member has died or dies from the results of war service. Certain anomalies concerning the continuance or regranting of pension were removed.

In December, 1935, the Principal Act was again amended and is now known as the *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act* 1920-1935. The principal amendments were in relation to (a) Reinstatement of pensions previously commuted; (b) Grant of pensions to dependants of deceased members of the Forces (whatever the actual cause of death) in cases where at the date of the member's death he was in receipt of a pension under the Second Schedule to the Act or in receipt of pension as a double amputee; (c) Removal of the time limit on lodgment of claims under section 23 (2) of the Act, and (d) To provide relief by way of Service Pensions to aged members of the Forces; to those members (and their families) who are unable, through mental or physical defects, to engage in remunerative employment; and to those members (and their families) who are suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. The new provisions became operative as from 1st January, 1936.

Appeal Tribunals.—As from 1st June, 1929, tribunals were created to hear appeals in regard to war pensions. The War Pensions Entitlement Appeal Tribunal is empowered to hear and decide any appeal against a decision of the Repatriation Commission, by or on behalf of ex-members of the forces or their dependants, that an incapacity or death of an ex-member arose out of war service.

Two Assessment Appeal Tribunals were created, to hear and decide any appeal against a current assessment of war pension made by the Repatriation Commission in respect of an incapacity of an ex-member of the forces which had been accepted as arising out of war service.

The following statistics for the year 1936-37 show in some degree the type and extent of current activity in the State of Victoria :—

Current
Work of
Department.

War Pensions—Number in force at 30th June, 1937—	
Members of the Forces	25,750
Dependants of deceased members of the Forces ..	8,910
Dependants of incapacitated members of the Forces	49,644
Expenditure for year (paid in pensions) ..	£2,326,414
Service Pensions—Number in force at 30th June, 1937—	
Members of the Forces	1,203
Dependants of deceased member pensioners ..	83
Dependants of member pensioners	771
Expenditure for year (paid in service pensions) ..	£54,127
Medical Treatment—	
Number of In-patients at 30th June, 1937, in Repatriation Institutions—	
General Hospitals	241
Sanatoria	55
Anzac Hostels	16
Mental Hospitals	174
(Some few patients are being treated in own homes).	
Attendances of Out-patients during 1936-37 (excluding treatments by Local Medical Officers, of whom there are 175 in rural areas)	52,173
Expenditure on treatment, &c.—	
Maintenance of Repatriation Institutions ..	£85,594
Maintenance of Patients in other than Repatriation Institutions (including Country Hospitals) ..	£18,159
Sustenance during medical treatment	£15,782
Conducting Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factory	£11,052
Other expenditure, including fees to consultants, &c.	£43,839
Soldiers' Children Education Scheme—	
Number of children at school and in training ..	1,501
Expenditure for year 1936-37	£31,946