

VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK

1936-37

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# Victorian Year-Book

1936-37

*By*

O. GAWLER, F.I.A.,

GOVERNMENT STATIST

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FIFTY-SEVENTH ISSUE

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## P R E F A C E.

THIS is the fifty-seventh issue of the *Victorian Year-Book*.

The main object of the work is to show the progress made by the State during the year under review and, towards this end, the particulars appertaining to that year are compared with the years preceding. An endeavour is made to present such information as will assist legislators, publicists, and others in formulating policy for the future development of the natural resources of the State and for promoting the welfare of the people.

The first part contains a reference to the Constitution, an epitome of Acts passed by the State Parliament during the year 1936 and in the year 1937 to the date (6th September) of the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly, and lists of members of Parliament. Parts V., VII., and IX., deal with the wealth and progress of the community, as indicated by increases in bank deposits, in amounts assured with life offices, the growth of the population and the increase in volume of trade, &c. In Parts VIII. and IV. details are given of the revenue and expenditure of the Government, of Local Government, Semi-Governmental and other Authorities. Parts II., III., and VI. contain statistics relating to births, marriages and deaths, crime, education, charitable institutions, and other cognate subjects. In Part X. a detailed account is given of the agricultural, dairying, pastoral, mineral, manufacturing, and other productions of the State. The various parts were issued as soon as completed. The information in all parts has been brought up to the latest possible date, on many subjects to the middle of the year 1937, and in a few instances to a later date.

The new matter appearing in this volume includes :—

- (1) An article on "The Freshwater Crayfishes and Yabbies of Victoria," by Miss Ellen Clark, National Museum of Victoria ;
- (2) A map showing Rail and Air lines in Victoria ;
- (3) New tables showing for Victoria :—
  - (a) The migration by air ;
  - (b) the area under cultivation in each of the counties ;
  - (c) the area, yield and gross value of the crops produced in the year 1936-37 ;

- (d) the rainfall for each of the eight agricultural districts ;
- (e) the monthly rainfall related to the average yields of wheat in the years 1927-37 ;
- (f) the machinery in use on rural holdings ;
- (g) the number of rams, ewes, &c., in each county.
- (h) revised statements relating to municipal finance ;

(4) A more comprehensive presentation of statistics relating to traffic accidents, &c.

Publication of the Statistical Register has been discontinued since the year 1916. The Register has, however, been compiled annually since then. It is therefore possible to supply much statistical information in greater detail than appears in this *Year-Book*.

Many persons have co-operated in the preparation of this book, and to all of them I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks and appreciation.

Responsible officers of Government Departments, Boards, Commissions, and Municipal and Semi-Government Authorities have supplied information and in many ways assisted. The Police of Victoria, by whom the annual collection of statistics relating to primary and secondary industries is effected, have carried out their task in a highly satisfactory manner. Primary producers, manufacturers and Heads of Banks and Insurance Companies and many others have shown, by their ready willingness to furnish particulars relating to their industries, their appreciation of the value to the community of the publication of reliable statistics.

Finally, I must pay a tribute to the members of my staff for their whole-hearted co-operation in the assembly, preparation, and checking of the material and supervision of the publication of this work.

The figures and other material in each portion of the book have been carefully examined and checked. If, however, any errors be detected, I shall be pleased to receive information as to their nature and position.

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Office of the Government Statist,  
Melbourne, 31st August, 1938.