

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton. Under the provisions of Act No. 3285 assented to on 23rd October, 1923, the University is to consist of a Council and Convocation. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. There is no religious test for admission.

The Council will be composed of 31 members, as follows :—

Eight to be appointed by the Governor in Council, of whom one shall be a member of the Legislative Council, two shall be members of the Legislative Assembly, one shall represent manufacturing and commercial interests, one shall represent agricultural interests, two shall represent industrial interests, and one shall be elected by the councils of the technical schools.

Ten to be elected by the Convocation, none of whom shall be a member of the teaching staff or other officer of the University or the head of an affiliated college.

Three (being professors or deans of faculties) to be elected by the professors.

One (a member of the teaching staff) to be elected by the teaching staff other than the professors.

Two to be elected by the undergraduates, but not to include any member of the teaching staff or any person under the full age of 21 years.

Two to be heads of affiliated colleges, and to be appointed by co-option of the Council.

Two to be appointed by co-option of the Council.

Three—the Director of Education, the Chairman of the Council of Agricultural Education, and the President of the Professorial Board—to be *ex officio* members of the Council.

The tenure of office of members of the Council is four years, but one-half of the number elected at the first election by the Convocation must retire at the end of two years, the Council determining by lot which of the members are to retire.

The Convocation is to consist of all graduates. It will elect a Warden annually or whenever a vacancy occurs from its own members.

Power is given to the Convocation to submit suggestions to the Council with respect to the affairs of the University. Provision is made for the constitution of a standing committee of Convocation, consisting of the Warden of Convocation *ex officio* and not less than 40 other persons who are members of Convocation.

A University Students Loan Fund is to be established by a payment of £10,000 from the Assurance Fund under the Transfer of Land Acts and by a grant of £2,000 annually from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for ten years from 1st July, 1923. In addition, all moneys received in repayment with interest of loans to University students and all moneys standing to the credit of any trust fund in the Treasury in respect of loans to students made by the Treasurer of Victoria before the passing of Act No. 3285 are to be credited to the Fund. Out of this Fund loans may be made to students who are nominated by a committee of three members of the Council appointed for the purpose.

The Act of 1923 provides for an endowment of £45,000 annually from 1st July, 1923. An additional grant of £8,500 is to be made for each of the ten financial years commencing 1st July, 1923. The amount of this grant is to be expended on the maintenance within the University of a school (including a faculty) of commerce for the teaching of and conducting research in commerce and the granting of degrees or diplomas in commerce; also for teaching and conducting research in science, and the establishment and maintenance within the University of a University Extension Department.

By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons the Melbourne University does not compare favorably with other Universities. Still, the investments at present held as the result of private benefactions, together with donations which have been expended

on buildings and equipment, amount to about £260,000. Since 1853 the amount received from the Government has been £1,376,631—£318,137 for building and apparatus, £740,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vic. 34, and £317,994 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. In addition to grants from the Government the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas.

The system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was superseded in December, 1917, by examinations for Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates. Under the regulations the rights of all candidates who have passed any subject at any previous public examination are reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1922 :—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY, 1922.

	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Examination—			
Intermediate	4,431	1,725	38.93
Leaving	2,587	1,004	38.81

In addition, under certain conditions, pupils of approved schools who produce Headmasters' Certificates are granted the Intermediate Certificate without further examination. In 1922, 563 candidates were granted the Intermediate Certificate under this regulation.

The number of degrees taken in 1922 was 514, all of which were direct, as against a total of 1,507 for the preceding five years, or an average of 301 per annum for that period. During those five years all the degrees obtained were direct and none *ad eundem*. Of the total of 8,401 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 1,145 have been conferred on women, 1,139 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows :—534 Bachelor of Arts, 210 Master of Arts, 116 Bachelor of Medicine, 7 Doctor of Medicine, 114 Bachelor of Surgery, 17 Bachelor of Laws, 2 Master of Laws, 5 Doctor of Science, 81 Bachelor

Degrees.

of Science, 27 Master of Science, 22 Bachelor of Music, 9 Bachelor of Dental Science, and 1 Bachelor of Agricultural Science. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1922—the particulars for the years 1921 and 1922 being given separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1921.			During 1921.			During 1922.			Total.		
	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.	Direct.	<i>Ad eundem.</i>	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ..	1557	118	1675	95	..	95	102	..	102	1754	118	1872
Master of Arts ..	730	184	914	34	..	34	39	..	39	803	184	987
Doctor of Letters	9	1	10	1	..	1	2	..	2	12	1	13
Bachelor of Medicine	1415	15	1430	59	..	59	91	..	91	1565	15	1580
Doctor of Medicine	230	107	337	13	..	13	14	..	14	257	107	364
Bachelor of Surgery	1346	4	1350	58	..	58	92	..	92	1496	4	1500
Master of Surgery	33	..	33	2	..	2	..	..	..	35	..	35
Bachelor of Laws	532	12	544	35	..	35	51	..	51	618	12	630
Master of Laws ..	104	3	107	4	..	4	6	..	6	114	3	117
Doctor of Laws ..	21	23	44	..	..	..	..	..	..	21	23	44
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ..	225	2	227	12	..	12	13	..	13	250	2	252
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ..	47	1	48	2	..	2	1	..	1	50	1	51
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering	7	..	7	1	..	1	4	..	4	12	..	12
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering	11	..	11	2	..	2	6	..	6	19	..	19
Master of Engineering ..	84	..	84	3	..	3	..	..	..	87	..	87
Doctor of Engineering ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Bachelor of Science	217	5	222	28	..	28	35	..	35	280	5	285
Master of Science	88	2	90	8	..	8	10	..	10	106	2	108
Doctor of Science	26	20	46	1	..	1	1*	..	1	28	20	48
Bachelor of Music	28	2	30	2	..	2	2	..	2	32	2	34
Doctor of Music ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Bachelor of Dental Science ..	176	..	176	12	..	12	34	..	34	222	..	222
Doctor of Dental Science ..	17	..	17	1	..	1	2	..	2	20	..	20
Bachelor of Veterinary Science ..	68	..	68	1	..	1	6	..	6	75	..	75
Master of Veterinary Science ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Doctor of Veterinary Science ..	8	..	8	2	..	2	..	..	..	10	..	10
Bachelor of Agricultural Science	26	..	26	3	..	3	3	..	3	32	..	32
Total ..	7006	501	7507	380	..	380	514	..	514	7900	501	8401

* Degree by special grace.

Students attending lectures, and undergraduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past ten years, the total in 1922 having been 2,645 as compared with 1,319 in 1912, thus showing an advance of about 100 per cent. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 74 per cent. in the period mentioned. Details for the last five years are given in the following statement :—

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1918 ..	297	133	430	910	538	1,448
1919 ..	495	141	636	1,415	572	1,987
1920 ..	591	155	746	1,910	620	2,530
1921 ..	460	150	610	2,003	651	2,654
1922 ..	422	126	548	1,973	672	2,645

Of the number attending lectures in 1922—2,645—699 were students in Arts and Education, 333 in Laws, 183 in Engineering, 731 in Medicine, 230 in Science, 198 in Music, 142 in Dentistry, 28 in Agriculture, 19 in Veterinary Science, 3 in Public Health, and 70 in Architecture, and 9 were doing Science Research Work.

University finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year 1922 is given below :—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1922.

	General Account.	Other Accounts.	All Departments.
	£	£	£
Receipts—			
Government Grants ..	25,500	13,508	39,008
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	56,931	16,906	73,837
Other sources	4,923	22,168	27,091
Total	87,354	52,582	139,936
Expenditure	94,342	40,956	135,298

In addition to the amounts shown above, the University received £11,188 from private benefactors, to be held in trust for scholarships and other purposes.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

**The
affiliated
colleges.**

The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, and of the Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose, which are situated in the northern portion of the University grounds fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. In 1906 the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognise the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

Information relating to the foundation and progress of Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's Colleges is given in the *Year-Book* for 1917-18 on pages 319 to 321.

**Trinity
College.**

This college, which was established by the Anglican Church, is open to students of all religious denominations, and the same remark applies to Janet Clarke Hall. The latter was established for the benefit of women students of Trinity College, and is an integral part of that college. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-room, libraries, billiard-room, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students.

The Warden of the college is J. C. V. Behan, M.A., LL.D. (Melb.), M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon.)—first Rhodes Scholar for the State of Victoria, formerly Stowell Civil Law Fellow and Dean of University College, Oxford—who is assisted by a staff of tutors and lecturers. The college holds annually, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the Warden.

**Ormond
College.**

This college, which was established by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, is a residential college for students of the University of Melbourne (without restriction as to religious denomination). It has a staff of lecturers and tutors from whom the students receive the assistance they require in their University work; non-resident students are also admitted to the college classes. The work of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria is carried on in the Victoria Wing; there is an independent staff of professors and lecturers for this work. Theological students may reside in the college if they are matriculated students of the University.

The *Year-Book* for 1919-20 contained a statement of the nature of the college buildings, and reference was made to recent additions and alterations. This information was amplified in subsequent issues.

War Memorial Brasses were unveiled by Brigadier-General H. E. Elliott, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., &c. (an old student of the College) and by Sir John MacFarland (formerly Master of the College) on Sunday, 26th November, 1922. These consist of (1) a roll of 59 Ormond men who gave their lives—in the Dining Hall Vestibule; (2) a roll of 311 past and present members of Ormond College Students' Club who went overseas on active service—in the Students' Common Room; (3) Tablets to individual men—in the studies last occupied by them (the special memorial provided by the Students' Club). These fine Brasses enhance the beauty of their surroundings, besides being a most fitting memorial.

The Master of the College is D. K. Picken, M.A. (Camb., Glasg., Melb.) formerly Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics in Victoria University College, Wellington, N.Z. All inquiries as to admission, scholarships, &c., should be made to him.

Queen's College. This college was founded by the Methodist Church of Victoria and its lectures are open to non-resident as well as resident students. It is capable of accommodating about 90 students in residence. The building comprises fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the Master, tutors and students. It has been enlarged at a cost of some £40,000 and includes a central tower, a memorial chapel to soldiers who were connected with the college, a new common room, a large library, and additional lecture rooms; as well as some 40 additional students' rooms. The new portion of the building was opened in March, 1923. The Master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc., Litt.D.

Newman College. Newman College is built in the section of the University Reserve granted by the Government of Victoria to the Roman Catholic Church in the Act of Incorporation of 2nd October, 1882. The foundation-stone was laid by the late Archbishop of Melbourne (the Most Reverend Thomas Joseph Carr, D.D.), on 11th June, 1916. It was founded by the generosity of the Roman Catholic people of the State of Victoria, and cost nearly £70,000. The Archbishop Carr Memorial Chapel, to be erected at a cost of £20,000, will be a striking addition to the College. A separate study and a bedroom are provided for each student. There is also provision of hot and cold shower and plunge baths, a large covered-in swimming bath, a gymnasium, and billiard and recreation rooms. The library consists of more than 10,000 volumes. Lectures, demonstrations, and private tuition are given in the College with the special object of assisting students in their University work. Women students as well as men extern students are admitted to all college lectures. Students of the college enjoy the advantage of residence, instruction in the doctrine and

discipline of the Roman Catholic Church, and tuition supplementary to University lectures.

All applications for information, &c., should be made to the Rector. The present Rector is the Very Rev. J. M. Murphy, S.J., M.A. He is assisted by the Rev. Dominic Kelly, S.J., M.A., the Rev. Wilfrid Ryan, S.J., M.A., F.G.S., and a staff of competent lecturers and tutors.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University extension.

Tutorial Classes have been organized by a Joint Committee consisting of representatives from the Extension Board and the Workers' Educational Association respectively. The Government grants a sum annually (now £2,250) for the development of Tutorial Class work. In addition to these classes, which are in operation in the city, suburbs, and country, the University Extension Board has inaugurated a system of advice by correspondence for the benefit of country students. This advice is confined to social and cultural subjects, and 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 more social functions of his daily life and citizenship. The Government grant in this connexion is £1,500.

Professor J. A. Gunn, M.A., Ph.D., is Director of Tutorial Classes and Chairman of the University Extension Board. The Secretary to the Board is Mr. S. D. Thompson, Education Department, Melbourne.

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. Subsequently, this Act and two amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889 were consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn was amended by Act No. 1777 passed in December, 1901, Act No. 2205 passed in December, 1905, Act No. 2301 passed in December, 1910, and Act No. 2330 passed in October, 1911, and is now, with its amendments, incorporated in the *Education Act* 1915, No. 2644.

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, noon.

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

In order to provide for the due co-ordination of all branches of public education a Council of Public Education has been created, representative of the various educational and industrial interests of the State. This body, which consists of 20 members presided over by the Director of Education, reports annually to Parliament on the development of public education in Victoria and elsewhere.

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

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. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and under eleven who reside between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and 3 miles from the nearest school, and 4d. per day for children over six and under fourteen who reside 4 miles or over from such school or, where schools have been closed, 3 miles therefrom.

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301 (now incorporated in the *Education Act* 1915, No. 2644) Boards of Advice were abolished and a School Committee for each school consisting of not more than seven persons was substituted therefor. The members of School Committees are nominated by the parents of children attending the school for which the Committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such Committees are:—(a) to exercise a general oversight over the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary; (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the Committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to buildings; (c) to promote the beautifying and improvement of school grounds, the establishment and maintenance of school gardens and agricultural plots, the decoration of the schoolroom, and the formation of a school library and museum; (d) to provide for the necessary cleansing and the sanitary services of the school; (e) to visit the school from time to time; (f) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school; and (g) to arrange, where necessary, for suitable board and lodging at reasonable rates for teachers (especially women teachers) appointed to the school.

Free subjects. The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—English (literature, reading, recitation, spelling, writing, composition, grammar), mathematics (arithmetic, algebra, geometry), nature knowledge (geography, science, nature-study), hygiene, history and civics, manual work (drawing, needlework, woodwork, and other occupations such as modelling in clay or plasticine, or brush drawing, or weaving with some material other than paper, for example, raffia), singing, physical training, and, where practicable, agriculture for boys, cookery and domestic economy for girls, gymnastics, and swimming. Pupils buy their own books and material.

New Features. The course of study (issued February, 1920) contains provisions to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants are also such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for their work. During the past few years a large number of teachers have taken the course at the Teachers' College and the Melbourne University, and, in addition, hundreds have been instructed (especially in those subjects the method of teaching which has under-

gone modification recently) in special classes held in the evenings and on Saturdays at centres of population, and, on a larger scale still, during the Christmas vacations at what are called "Summer Schools." Much attention has been given to the beautifying and improvement of school grounds by the planting of trees and shrubs, and by the establishment of school gardens. One day in each year—termed Arbor Day—is specially set apart for tree-planting, and for the giving of lessons on the value of trees. The teaching of elementary agriculture is warmly encouraged by both the Department of Education and the Department of Agriculture, and the subject is being dealt with in a very practical way.

There were, on 30th June, 1922, 77 woodwork centres in operation, having an attendance of 9,138 boys; and 59 cookery centres, with an attendance of 5,725 girls, also two laundry centres, with 283 girls in attendance. Five Schools of Domestic Arts, attended by 956 girls, have been established. In these schools girls over twelve years of age are given, during the last two years of their school life, a training in the subjects of a comprehensive domestic arts course. At the same time their general education is continued. In addition to the instruction given in the woodwork centres woodwork is being taught to 718 boys in 50 country schools by the head teachers as one of the ordinary subjects. Swimming is taught in schools that have the necessary facilities, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at various centres. Drill is taught in all schools. During 1912 the system of physical training approved of by the Commonwealth military authorities was introduced. Nearly every State school now has its garden and some of the school gardens are among the beauty spots of their districts. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, assists teachers in obtaining the best seeds, seedlings, ornamental trees, and flowering shrubs. It has a nursery of its own at Oakleigh, maintained partly by members' subscriptions (2s. 6d. yearly), and partly by a Government grant. Most of the State schools are affiliated with the Society, which sent out in 1922 at reduced rates to its members 18,000 packets of seeds, 115,000 seedlings, 6,000 rooted roses, 10,000 shrubs, 3,000 herbaceous plants, 1,200 climbers, 2,500 indoor pot-plants, 3,000 dahlias, 2,000 chrysanthemums, and 300 carnations.

The year 1922 marked the attainment of the jubilee of free and compulsory education in Victoria. The occasion was fittingly commemorated by an exhibition of the work of all types of schools in the State, from the remote "bush school" to the largest high school and technical school in the metropolis. There can be no doubt that the display of the output of the schools was a revelation to the general public. It furnished an assurance that national education in Victoria is being directed with efficiency and foresight.

**Drill,
swimming,
school
gardens, &c.**

**Fifty years
of free
education.**

Special days. In addition to Arbor Day (to which reference has been made), other special days—Anzac Day, Discovery Day, Empire Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The landing of the Australians and New Zealanders on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25th April, 1915, has been commemorated in the schools each year since, on Anzac Day, by the holding of a special service, consisting of hymns and addresses together with the saluting of the flag. The schools of Victoria held a celebration of Empire Day in 1905, being among the first of the oversea Dominions to recognise the day, and have since enthusiastically kept it in remembrance year by year. The first sighting of Australia by Captain Cook in April, 1770, is commemorated on Discovery Day. Bird Day has for its object the protection of native birds and their eggs. On that day lessons are given on bird life and, where possible, bird-observing excursions are made. Over 61,000 of the older school children have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which was established for the protection of bird life.

Patriotic Fund. During the Great War the teachers and children in the State schools, with the aid of departmental officers, school committees, and parents, were instrumental in raising a sum of £440,000 for the Department's War Relief Fund. Particulars are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 333 and 334. The fund was closed in 1920.

Social Service. Schools have taken up the Junior Red Cross movement in order to continue the training afforded by the Young Workers' Patriotic Guild, in which pupils earned money during the war period and gave it to the War Relief Fund. Members of the Junior Red Cross branches are assisting their local charities or helping local cases of indigence in their neighbourhood.

League of Young Gardeners. A widespread movement is being fostered for the carrying out of "home projects," as has been done in the United States of America. The idea is to link school, home, and farm in one common interest. The growing of sugar-beet, the culture of the potato, the selection of wheat, and the rearing of poultry and stock have engaged the united attention of children, teachers, and parents in various Victorian school districts.

Medical Inspection. The need for the medical inspection of school children has received widespread recognition, and the Victorian Education Department has followed the lead of progressive countries by appointing four medical inspectors. Two of these went abroad during the war period, and were engaged on war service. The medical officers devote their whole time to investigating the hygienic condition of school premises and the physical and mental condition of the pupils, and to giving instruction to teachers.

Dental Clinic. A dental clinic has been established and is under the charge of four dental officers. Great service is being rendered by this clinic.

Teachers' remuneration and classification.

Under the provisions of Act No. 3059, assented to on 14th September, 1920, male teachers are divided into five and female teachers into four classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries of males, excluding junior teachers, range from £156 to £600, and those of females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, range from £120 to £420. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are three classes of junior teachers, with salaries ranging for males from £60 to £84 and for females from £50 to £70. An annual allowance of £12 (in addition to salary) is paid to junior teachers who have passed the Intermediate Examination of the University of Melbourne, and of £24 to those who have passed the Leaving Examination. Sewing mistresses receive £60 yearly.

State schools, teachers, and scholars, 1872 to 1921.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June, and those relating to the number of scholars to the financial year ended 30th June, for the eight years ended 1916-17; the reference is to 31st December and the years ended on that date respectively for returns for years prior to 1901-2 and for the years 1917 to 1921 :—

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1921.

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
1910-11 ...	2,059	5,087	234,766	146,464	204,086
1911-12 ...	2,093	5,533	238,111	151,247	205,695
1912-13 ...	2,127	5,683	241,042	152,600	209,172
1913-14 ...	2,175	5,710	246,447	158,213	214,986
1914-15 ...	2,227	6,085	250,264	160,885	218,427
1915-16 ...	2,225	6,194	257,726	161,632	221,777
1916-17 ...	2,202	6,275	254,033	161,034	221,202
1917 (31st Dec.) ...	2,236	6,455	†214,048	†161,574	†186,523
1918 ...	2,272	6,570	240,664	164,350	208,861
1919 ...	2,280	6,518	235,292	160,345	207,633
1920 ...	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1921 ...	2,334	*6,784	247,204	167,154	216,037

* In addition to these teachers, 386 were temporarily employed on 30th June, 1922.

† These are the figures for the six months ended 31st December, 1917; hence the apparent falling off in "number enrolled" as compared with the number for the preceding year. Had the figures been compiled to June, 1918, probably the new number would have been greater, not less than that of the previous year. An increase in the same ratio as the increase in average attendance would fix the number at 255,280.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number and percentage of children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year ended 31st December, 1921 :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1921.

Ages.	Net Enrolment of Children Attending--					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	13,637	6.3	...	...	13,637	6.3
6 to 14 ,, ...	188,331	87.2	3	3.5	188,334	87.2
14 years and upwards ...	13,983	6.5	83	96.5	14,066	6.5
Total ...	215,951	100.0	86	100.0	216,037	100.0

Children of school age receiving instruction. The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on 31st December, 1921,* was 242,600, and of these 234,246 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 8,354. If allowance be made for those being taught at home, for others who, having obtained certificates of exemption, have left school, and for those bodily or mentally afflicted, it will be apparent that the number of children whose education is being wholly neglected is very small.

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

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

* The latest statistics published by the Education Department of Victoria. (vide "Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the years 1920-21 and 1921-22") are for the period ended 31st December, 1921.

Registered schools, 1872 to 1921.

The appended statement shows the number of registered schools, of instructors in same, and of individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, and in a number of subsequent years, including the latest year for which particulars are available :—

REGISTERED SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE,
1872 TO 1921.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Individual Scholars.
1872	888	1,841	24,781
1880	643	1,516	28,134
1890	791	2,037	40,181
1900	884	2,348	48,483
1909-10	641	2,067	49,964
1914-15	509	1,879	52,638
1915-16	495	1,909	57,400
1916-17	495	1,970	56,193
1917-18	499	2,002	58,366
1918 (31st December)	493	1,903	56,996
1919	486	1,991	56,684
1920	489	1,950	59,314
1921	486	2,063	59,922

Scholars attending State and registered schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 22 per cent. of the scholars during 1921 attended registered schools, and that the balance, 78 per cent., attended State primary and secondary schools.

THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Teachers' College.

In recent years the training of teachers for the State Department has been much modified and altered. Formerly, young people who had completed the State School course of education were employed as pupil teachers to teach the whole of each day, and during their three or four years' course they received instruction, usually in the mornings or in the late afternoons, from the head masters and other qualified teachers of the staff. Now such young persons enter one or other of the High Schools throughout the State, where they stay for at least two years, receiving the groundwork

of a good secondary education, also instruction in certain subjects which are considered essential for a teacher. The rules relating to entrance into the Service as junior teachers provide that candidates must be not less than 16 years of age and must hold the School Intermediate Certificate or an approved equivalent or higher qualification. Where a vacancy for a junior teacher exists, and there is no candidate qualified in accordance with the foregoing conditions, the Director may appoint the best qualified candidate, if necessary by competitive examination. Teachers can, in the course of a few years after being appointed, possess second class and first class certificates, and be enrolled as fully qualified teachers. The more ambitious of the intending teachers remain at the High Schools for at least three years, when they pass the Leaving Certificate examination. In some cases they remain a year longer in order to qualify themselves to enter for the course of training for Secondary Teachers. Intending teachers who wish to get higher certificates and to receive the best course of training available enter the Teachers' College. This is situated in a corner of the University Grounds, Carlton, and is at the present time in close connexion with the University.

There are three full courses of training at the Teachers' College. The first of these is for Kindergarten or Infant Teachers, the second for Primary Teachers, and the third for Secondary Teachers. In the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 338 to 340, particulars are given of the nature of the work carried on at the College, the qualifications which must be possessed by students desiring admission thereto, the fees payable, &c.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

The Education Act of 1910 authorized the establishment of these schools in order to open a broad highway, at little or no cost to the parents of the pupils, leading from the elementary schools to the technical schools and the University. A further important function of these institutions is to give the necessary preliminary education to boys and girls intending to take up teaching. Under the scheme of training now in operation aspirants for the teaching profession are expected during the period spent at a district high school to complete their preliminary studies. Any pupil who has satisfactorily completed the work of grade VI. in an elementary school is qualified for admission to a high school. The course of study lasts for six years in the case of pupils who enter from the sixth grade of the elementary school after obtaining the qualifying certificate, or for four or five years in the case of those who enter from the eighth grade after completing the course of the elementary school. Winners of Government scholarships are also trained at these schools, but parents are at liberty to select an approved secondary school for the education of their boys and girls. Besides the day classes there are formed at a few of the district high schools evening classes for the instruction of teachers living in the vicinity, and correspondence classes for those residing at a distance. Ten of the District High Schools are specially

equipped for the teaching of agriculture in addition to providing other courses of secondary education. There are district high schools at Ararat, Bacchus Marsh, Bairnsdale, Ballarat,* Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Coburg, Colac,* Dandenong, Echuca, Essendon, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Kerang, Kyneton, Leongatha,* Mansfield,* Maryborough, Melbourne, Mildura,* Sale,* Shepparton,* St. Arnaud, Stawell, University (Carlton), Wangaratta,* Warragul,* Warrnambool,* and Williamstown. The schools the names of which are asterisked are equipped with farms.

During the term ended 31st December, 1921, there were in attendance at these schools 6,980 pupils, of whom 3,579 were boys and 3,401 were girls. Education is free up to the age of fourteen years, after which a fee of £6 per annum is charged. Travelling expenses (up to £5 per annum) are provided for children living beyond four miles from the school, if the parents' income does not exceed £150 per annum. In special cases the Department has power to make grants in aid of school requisites up to £2 per annum, and of the cost of maintenance up to £26 per annum, to enable pupils to continue their studies at district high schools and higher elementary schools.

For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers the institution now known as the University High School was opened in a State building 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. The practical training in teaching received at this school is part of what is prescribed for the course for the Diploma of Education at the Melbourne University. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Arts of the University.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

There are now thirty-nine higher elementary schools—**Higher Elementary Schools and Classes.** Beechworth, Boort, Bright, Camperdown, Casterton, Charlton, Chiltern, Clunes, Coleraine, Corryong, Daylesford, Dean, Dimboola, Donald, Euroa, Foster, Hampton, Inglewood, Korumburra, Kyabram, Lilydale, Nathalia, Nhill, Orbost, Portarlington, Portland, Rainbow, Rochester, Rushworth, Rutherglen, Sea Lake, Seymour, Swan Hill, Terang, Traralgon, Warracknabeal, Werribee, Yarram, and Yarrawonga. During the term ended 31st December, 1921, there were in attendance at these schools 3,486 pupils, of whom 1,755 were boys and 1,731 were girls. Education in the higher elementary schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

There are also fifteen schools, ten in the metropolitan area and four in urban and one in country centres—known as "Central" schools—in which a preparatory course of secondary education is provided. These were attended by 2,453 pupils in 1921.

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, a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their several careers in life. These schools thus form a link between the elementary school and technical institutions, or the University, or vocations that may be followed by pupils upon the completion of the course of study.

SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Minister of Public Instruction may annually award scholarships as under :—

No. and Kind.	Age Requirement of Candidate.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
100 Junior	Under 14½ years	4 years ..	Free tuition at a district high school and £4 for school requisites, or £12 for tuition and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or up to £5 for transit
40 Senior..	Under 18½ years	3-6 years	£40 towards expense of any course at the University
50 Junior Technical	Under 14 years	2 years ..	Free tuition at a junior technical school, or in the industrial course at an approved district high or higher elementary school, and £4 for school requisites; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or up to £5 for transit
55 Senior Technical at a Technical School	.. ..	3-5 years	Free tuition for full length of approved courses at approved technical schools; also £30 for day students or £10 for night students
4 Senior Technical at the Melbourne University	.. ..	2-3 years	£40 towards expense of a course in architecture, engineering, or science at the University
60 Teaching	14-17 years ..	3 years ..	As for "Junior"
20 Nominated courses	.. ..	4 years ..	Free tuition in agriculture, mining or veterinary science at the University; also, in certain cases, an allowance up to £25 for maintenance

In addition, 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 in the case of pupils of State junior technical and secondary schools who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances. Free tuition at State technical and secondary schools may also be granted in

the case of children of sailors or soldiers who lost their lives or became physically incapacitated while on active service in the Australian Imperial Force.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

The number of marriages celebrated in 1922 was 12,996, and there were only 12 men and 8 women who showed their want of elementary education by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing. This indicates a very high elementary standard of education in this State, which in this respect, with the exception of Queensland, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The whole of the technical schools in the State, prior to 1910, were under the control of local councils. Act No. 2301, passed in that year, provided for the schools being brought under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The Education Department, in all cases, retains the general direction of technical education. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 31st December, 1921, was 27.

The former lack of organized method in preparing pupils for courses in technical schools largely neutralized the efforts of the instructors in these institutions. In order to overcome this difficulty, junior or preparatory technical schools have been established in connexion with all the higher technical schools. These schools offer a course of two or three years' instruction for boys between the ages of twelve and a half and fifteen years. Instruction in English subjects is carried on in conjunction with mathematics and the more technical subjects. The curriculum is designed to qualify for entrance to the senior schools. The course has been very popular, and the accommodation has not been sufficient for the number of students coming forward.

A number of the pupils are attracted by the wages offered by employers, and leave to become apprentices. A fair percentage continue their education by attendance at evening classes.

The aim of the Victorian technical schools is to provide vocational courses of training in industrial subjects, and, as far as possible, to provide for the training of the expert technologist. The various branches of engineering and its subdivisions, mining, metallurgy, technical and agricultural chemistry, subjects connected with the building trades (including architecture) and with other trades, applied art, commercial subjects and those connected with household economy are included in their syllabuses. Trade courses correspond to the period of apprenticeship, which extends over five years.

The larger technical schools, such as the Working Men's College, the Swinburne Technical College, and the Ballarat and

Bendigo Schools of Mines, have an extensive curriculum embracing the most important industrial subjects. Of the smaller schools, some in country districts have courses in mining, metallurgy, and engineering subjects as well as courses in drawing and applied art work, while in a few schools the subjects taught are mainly drawing and art work. The only technical schools for women's industries are the College of Domestic Economy and the girls' junior technical departments in the Swinburne, Ballarat, and Prahran Schools.

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject per annum to £35 per course of subjects per annum.

The following is a statement of the Government expenditure on each technical school during the five years ended 1921-22. The expenditure in 1921-22 was greater than in any previous year:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1917-18 TO 1921-22.

Name.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.	1920-21.	1921-22.
	£	£	£	£	£
Ararat .. .. .	..	..	..	143	154
Bairnsdale	1,796	2,757	2,561	4,750	4,237
Ballarat	10,800	11,668	11,923	18,943	18,463
Beechworth	1,480	778	797	1,106	1,119
Bendigo	6,814	7,442	7,317	9,982	11,217
Brighton	757	23	833	5,967	10,558
Brunswick	4,043	4,116	5,603	13,405	13,100
Castlemaine	5,305	3,239	3,249	4,902	4,823
Caulfield .. .. .	..	..	..	4,173	13,232
College of Domestic Economy ..	973	1,389	1,655	2,356	2,581
Collingwood	4,993	6,017	6,291	7,264	8,378
Daylesford	950	1,122	1,549	1,997	2,041
Echuca	1,136	2,755	1,697	2,650	2,411
Footscray	8,342	4,500	6,438	9,740	10,698
Geelong (Gordon Tech. Col.) ..	5,585	6,109	5,116	7,259	11,133
Glenferrie (Swinburne Tech. Col.)	16,579	16,160	10,216	13,963	15,122
Horsham	475	600	700	926	1,199
Maryborough	1,415	1,736	2,964	3,275	4,919
Melbourne (Working Men's Col.)	21,909	21,514	19,258	26,782	29,013
Prahran	4,444	4,492	5,272	6,474	6,778
Sale	475	831	1,690	2,405	2,712
South Melbourne	11,033	1,898	5,053	7,533	8,734
Stawell	1,759	1,724	2,010	2,742	2,835
Sunshine	1,689	1,819	1,940	3,341	2,189
Warrnambool	4,464	2,861	2,646	3,842	4,661
West Melbourne	7,589	7,743	8,226	10,243	11,463
Wonthaggi .. .. .	..	629	932	3,164	10,262
Other votes for technical schools	..	7,783	9,860	10,579	12,604
Miscellaneous	1,592	1,761	1,698	2,309	2,625
Total	126,397	123,466	127,494	192,215	229,261

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 WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

Working
Men's
College,
Melbourne.

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

Fees.

All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed. Students under 18 years of age, those under 21 in receipt of less wages than 25s. per week, and indentured apprentices are admitted at reduced fees to many of the evening classes. Examinations are held in November, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances.

Fees Payable.

Full Day Courses.		Fee.	
		£	s.
Preparatory School for Diploma Courses—			
First year	... ..	2	10 per term
Second year	... ..	3	0 „
Diploma Courses—Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining Engineering—			
First year	... ..	4	0 „
Second year	... ..	5	0 „
Third year	... ..	6	0 „
Diploma Course—Metallurgy—			
First year	... ..	4	0 „
Second year	... ..	5	0 „
Third year	... ..	6	0 „
Diploma Courses—Applied Chemistry—			
First year	... ..	4	0 „
Second year	... ..	5	0 „
Third year (Inorganic Diploma)	... ..	6	0 „
Fourth year (Organic Diploma)	... ..	6	0 „
Woolsorting	... ..	6	0 „
Art Course, Full	... ..	2	10 „
„ „ Half-Day	... ..	2	0 „
Dressmaking, Half-Day	... ..	2	0 „
Millinery, Half-Day	... ..	2	0 „

Evening Classes.

Arithmetic	...	...	...	...	...
Algebra	...	...	...	...	...
Geometry	...	...	...	...	...
Trigonometry	...	...	...	...	...
Differential and Integral Calculus	...	...	...	...	...
Practical Geometry	...	...	...	...	...
Dressmaking	...	...	...	...	...
Millinery	...	...	...	...	...
Applied Mechanics	...	...	...	...	...
Applied Electricity	...	...	...	...	...
Architecture	...	...	...	...	...
Building Construction	...	...	...	...	...
Surveying	...	...	...	...	...
Hydraulics	...	...	...	...	...
Chemistry	...	...	...	...	...
Assaying	...	...	...	...	...
Metallurgy	...	...	...	...	...
Engineering Drawing	...	...	...	...	...
Science, Trade, Commercial, Mining, and numerous other Subjects	...	...	...	...	...
Evening Art and Applied Art Courses (Drawing, Design, Modelling, &c.)	...	...	...	...	20s. per term.
Preliminary Year for Courses for Experts' Certificates	...	...	...	...	25s. per term.
Courses for Experts' Certificates	...	...	...	...	From 30s. per term.

Various amounts ranging from 7s. 6d. upwards per term.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. There is a prize to the best student in each year of the day courses, and to the best student in each of the evening classes. The Magee prize, of the annual value of £3, is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize, which is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the council at the beginning of each year. The Royal Victorian Institute of Architects awards prizes in the architecture and building construction classes, and the Green Field Tap and Die Corporation awards a set of stocks and dies to the best student in fitting and turning.

The Beazley Bequest Scholarships, of which there are twenty-eight of the value of £810, are awarded annually for trade subjects. The following scholarships cover four years' free instruction in the day courses:—The Danks (2), The Arnot, The Lady Gillott, and The Colin Thompson.

The receipts from the Government in 1922 amounted to £29,706.

About 180 classes are held in the following departments:—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering and Science, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day school students are prepared for the higher positions of industrial life in the following complete courses:—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Municipal Engineering, (4) Marine Engineering, (5) Mining Engineering, (6) Metallurgy, and (7) Applied Chemistry.

To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued.

In the Applied Art School classes are held in the following subjects :—Drawing, Design, Modelling, Architecture, Building Construction, Geometrical Drawing, Practical Plane and Solid Geometry, Perspective, Blackboard Drawing, Still Life Painting, Anatomy, Figure Drawing, Figure Composition, Book Illustration, Lettering, Illuminating, Stencilling, Leather Embossing, Decorative Metalwork, Silver-smithing, Jewellery, Engraving, Die Sinking, Lead Glazing, Stained Glass, Plaster Casting, Signwriting, Ticket Writing, Lithography, Process Engraving, Weaving, Dressmaking, Millinery, and Plain and Decorative Needlework.

In the evening school the following courses for certificates are in operation :—Assayers, geologists, electrical engineers, civil engineers (municipal and hydraulic), mechanical and marine engineers, land surveyors, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, signwriters and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. The following figures give an indication of the comparative amount of work done at the College during the years 1918 to 1922 :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1918 TO 1922.

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,566*	2,640*	2,634*	2,604*	2,465*
Males over 21	503	488	449	586	533
" under 21—Apprentices ..	730	772	778	601	634
" " Others	991	1,049	1,095	1,109	1,025
Females	342	331	312	308	273
Fees received during the year ..	7,928	8,033†	16,300†	11,015†	12,151
Average fee per student	62s. Od.	60s. 10d.	124s. Od.	96s. 3d.	99s. 7d.
Number of classes	175	173	173	180	176
" instructors	103	102	97	115	117
Salaries paid instructors	£16,864	£17,666	£20,027	£24,390	£25,629

* In addition, over 400 students were receiving vocational training for the Repatriation Department during 1918 and 1919, 370 in 1920, 230 in 1921, and 200 in 1922.

† This does not include fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £2,120 in 1919, £4,461 in 1920, £1,752 in 1921, and £797 in 1922. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £326,946. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance (including salaries) and amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,645,017 at the

Public
Library of
Victoria.

end of 1922. 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 5,790 volumes were purchased, 2,268 volumes presented, 355 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 43,894 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1922. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 290,644 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 128,412 volumes during 1922, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 7,918. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of the year mentioned was 39,770, of which 1,283 were added during the year.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the end of 1922 contained 20,234 works of art, viz., 649 oil paintings, 5,116 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 14,469 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended during the year by 25 students, and the school of drawing by 121 students. The average annual income from the Felton bequest amounts to £16,000, which is expended on paintings, statuary, and other works of art.

Industrial Museum. The Industrial and Technological Museum occupies the whole of the first floor front of the institution. At the end of 1922 it contained more than 10,100 exhibits.

National Museum. The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Thursdays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 1922 the expenditure on specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £500.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

Patent Office Library. There is a free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, which contains over 10,000 volumes, including the Patents Acts, official Gazettes and patents specifications of the principal countries of the world. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Supreme Court Library. The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has nineteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees

paid under Acts of Parliament and Rules of Court for the admission of barristers and solicitors.

OTHER LIBRARIES.

Free Libraries. Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1921–1922 having been £3,000. Of these libraries 475 furnished returns in 1922, which show that they possessed 937,370 volumes, and received £88,633 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £82,890—£11,670 on books, &c., and £71,220 on maintenance—and that 2,693,566 visits were paid to the 416 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition Buildings, Aquarium, and Museum. The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened for the purpose of an exhibition, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure, temporary annexes, &c., was £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On that occasion a further sum of £262,954 was expended. At the close of the exhibition there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904.

The receipts for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1922, amounted to £9,115, consisting of rents, £5,231, aquarium receipts, £3,420, and other receipts, £464. The expenditure totalled £8,630, viz. :—£2,980, expenses of the aquarium; and £5,650 for general maintenance, improvements to buildings, insurance and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust at 30th June, 1922, amounted to £1,199, against which the trust had incurred bank overdrafts to the amount of £874.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic Garden. The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established over 70 years ago, is situated on the south side of the Yarra, at a distance of about one mile from the city. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Associated with the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Domain, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The Botanic Gardens and the Domain are administered by the Lands Department, the Government House Grounds temporarily by the Federal Government, and Alexandra Park and Queen Victoria Gardens solely by the Melbourne City Council. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere,

embraces an area of approximately 320 acres, and, in addition to the divisions mentioned above, includes the grounds and buildings of the Observatory and the National Herbarium.

Records of the commencement and the progress of the Gardens until 1908 are to be found in the *Descriptive Guide to the Botanic Gardens*, published by the Government Printer in that year, and obtainable at a price of 1s. A reference to some of the principal features appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 525 to 527.

The Gardens are open to the public daily from 7 a.m. in summer and 7.30 a.m. in winter, and are closed at sunset.

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, nearly 2 miles distant from the Elizabeth Street Post Office, and can be reached by tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by electric train to Royal Park Station. When the electric tramway from West Brunswick, at present being constructed through Royal Park, is completed, it will provide another facility for reaching the Gardens.

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. Most of the large animals of the world, such as the hippopotamus, giraffe, Indian elephant, &c., are exhibited there, as well as many native animals. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the State Governor, and the Director is Mr. A. Wilkie.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

A brief statement of the history of this society and of the work carried on by it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 528 and 529. The membership subscription is 10s. per annum. Two shows are held each year, one in the autumn and one in spring. The members' monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month.

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, four vice-presidents (two amateur and two professional), an honorary treasurer, and sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. Stanley E. R. Church, at 243 Collins-street, Melbourne, 'Phone Central 6097.

**Other
societies.**

There are about 40 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

**Public
reserves.**

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes having been 6,212½ acres in 1922. A list of the public reserves in

1917, together with a statement of their respective areas, appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 529 to 533.

A further statement showing the number and area of reserves in 17 of the largest towns outside Melbourne was given on page 533 of the same volume.

At the end of 1922 there were in the State 3,234 regular churches and chapels, and 1,612 other buildings where religious services were held—a total of 4,846 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,171 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars in regard to the different denominations :—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1922.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ...	398	714	565	1,279
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ...	302	610	315	925
Free Presbyterian ...	4	9	1	10
Methodist ...	277	825	319	1,144
Independent or Congregational ...	82	88	44	132
Baptist ...	95	112	45	157
Lutheran ...	25	50	13	63
Salvation Army ...	527	167	34	201
Church of Christ ...	78	92	18	110
Church for Deaf Mutes ...	1	1	...	1
Other Protestant ...	15	28	19	47
Roman Catholic Church ...	354	525	231	756
New Church (or Swedenborgian) ...	1	2	...	2
Catholic Apostolic Church ...	2	1	...	1
Greek Orthodox Church ...	1	1	...	1
Jews ...	5	6	3	9
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints ...	4	3	5	8
Total ...	2,171	3,234	1,612	4,846

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 3,031, and the teachers 24,231; the number of scholars on the rolls was 233,825—107,101 males and 126,724 females.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Friendly societies seem to have been established in Victoria very soon after the first settlement of the territory, but it was not until after the passing of the 1855 Act that any steps were taken for their registration as institutions recognised by law. That statute consolidated and amended the laws then in force relating to friendly societies, and was the first Act passed in this connexion by the Victorian Legislature after the separation of Victoria from New South Wales in 1851. It was assented to on 12th June, 1855, and provided for the appointment of a registrar, and also a certifying barrister, to whom the rules of a society had to be submitted for examination, and whose certificate, that these rules were in accordance with the law, was necessary before registration could be effected. It also provided that the tables of contributions should be certified to by an actuary of an assurance company, or "some person" appointed by the registrar before the latter could register the rules of the society.

Registration was not, however, made compulsory, and the actuarial certificate given by the actuary appointed by the registrar, under the provisions of the Act, for this purpose was only of a provisional nature, issued subject to the condition that the tables were to be submitted to him for approval after a certain period had elapsed. This temporary certificate was given because there were no data then available in Australia on which to calculate the amount necessary to provide the sickness benefits. As there was no power under the Act to compel a society to apply to the actuary for a renewal of the provisional certificate when the time covered by that certificate had expired, the registration of these institutions was unfortunately permanently effected with rates of contribution which afterwards proved to be, in almost every instance, inadequate. The control exercised over friendly societies as a result of this legislation was very slight.

No further serious attention was given by the Government to friendly societies until 1875, when a Commission was appointed to inquire into "the working of the Friendly Societies Statute, the position and operations of the societies registered under it, and what amendment, if any, is desirable in the existing law." The outcome of this Commission was the 1877 Act, which provided (*inter alia*) for the appointment of a barrister of not less than seven years' standing as registrar, and also that each society should furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once at least in every five years should either have its assets and liabilities valued by a valuer appointed by the society or send such particulars to the Government Statist as would enable him to have the valuation made. The fees for valuation were purposely fixed at a low rate, and average not more than three-pence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers, should they so desire, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and nearly all the valuations

have been made by the Government Actuary. The passing of this Act had the effect of considerably increasing the control exercised by the Government over the operations of friendly societies.

In accordance with its provisions, an actuary was appointed under the Government Statist in 1881, whose chief duty was to make periodical valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies, and the result of these valuations disclosed the fact that, in almost every instance, the rates then being paid by the members were insufficient to provide the benefits which the societies had by their rules agreed to pay. The Act gave no power to enforce payment of adequate rates of contribution, and the actuary could not therefore compel a society to take such steps as would enable it to meet its liabilities, but could only give advice as to the best means to be adopted to secure that end. It is only just to the managing bodies of these institutions, however, to state that most of the principal societies made a serious effort to carry out the suggestions of the actuary. Several of them passed rules requiring future members to pay adequate rates of contribution, and in nearly every case some effort was made to improve the financial position.

It was not until 1907 that registration of societies was made compulsory, and that they were required to adopt adequate rates of contribution in respect of all members, existing as well as new members. An Act which was passed in that year embodied these provisions, the penalty for failure to adopt adequate rates of contribution being cancellation of registration. The operation of the Act, in so far as it related to the scale of contributions payable, was, however, limited to a period of eighteen months. This was a serious defect, as contributions which are sufficient at one time may at a future date become inadequate, owing to fluctuations in interest, sickness, or mortality rates or faulty management. To remedy this defect an amending Act was passed in the year 1911. This Act provides that, if a society receives two successive notifications from the Government Statist that its rates are inadequate, it must adopt adequate rates within twelve months of the second notification, otherwise its registration will be cancelled. There must be an interval of at least three years between the two notifications. It is expected that a society on receiving the first notification will take such steps to improve its position as will obviate the necessity for the second being issued.

The legislation which has been referred to has had a very beneficial effect on societies. Of fifteen societies having a membership of over 500 each, thirteen have assets whose ratio to liabilities exceeds, or closely approximates to, 20s. in the £1, and of all the societies only two have a lower ratio than 18s. in the £1. In Victoria the societies have received no subvention from the State.

If, on an actuarial valuation being made, a surplus is found to exist in any one fund of a society, the Government Statist may authorize the utilization of the whole or a portion of such surplus for the purposes of the same or any other fund.

The *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 consolidates all Acts passed up to 1914 inclusive. An Act passed in 1915—the *Friendly Societies Act* 1915 (No. 2)—gave power to societies to reinsure with the Government or with an approved life assurance company their liabilities to members who were engaged on naval or military service in connexion with the war. The number of societies which took advantage of the scheme was twelve, and the number of their enlisted members was about 15,120. The sum paid by them in sickness and mortality benefits on account of those members under the contracts which were reinsured was about £232,000, and of this sum £46,500 was reimbursed to the societies by the Government in accordance with the arrangement made with it.

The amounts of the sickness and mortality benefits paid by all societies on account of members who took part in the war was about £286,000. In addition, they paid the contributions of enlisted members during their absence from Australia. The amount of these contributions was about £152,000.

An Act was passed in 1922 in relation to Dividing Societies, *i.e.*, friendly societies which divide the whole or a portion of their funds each year. Its principal provisions are (1) that no dividing society shall be established in future unless it limits its membership to the employees of a particular Government department, municipality, company, or other body, firm or person; and (2) that every existing dividing society, the operations of which are not limited in the manner indicated, shall re-register every year, and, as a precedent to such re-registration, shall forward to the Registrar an actuarial certificate that its rates of contribution are adequate to provide the benefits specified in its rules.

Under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1923, which was assented to on 2nd October, 1923, societies may provide for the payment of sums of money on the deaths of members, their husbands, wives, widows, children, or kindred up to an aggregate of £100 instead of sums for defraying the expenses of burial of members and the other persons mentioned above. Societies are also permitted to contract with a person for the payment of a maximum amount of sick pay of £3 per week. Previously the periodical payment was limited to £2 per week. Another important provision of the Act is that the Government Statist may make or cause to be made such inspection and examination of the books of a society or branch as he deems necessary.

Central bodies of societies are empowered by statute to appoint auditors to audit and inspect the accounts and securities of branches at such time as the central body may direct. Every trustee, treasurer, secretary, chairman or member of the committee of management who takes any money or valuable thing in consideration of any benefit received or to be received by any member of an unregistered society is liable to a penalty of £50. Trade unions are exempted from registration. The investment of funds on leasehold property is now illegal, but the power to invest

is extended to any securities on which a trustee is under any Act authorized to invest any trust funds in his hands. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing on mortgage if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. An Act passed in 1910 created a new stock for the special benefit of friendly societies, investment in which is optional and on which interest is payable at 4 per cent. The amount invested in the stock at the end of 1922 was £333,236. Prior to the year 1907 it was not lawful for a friendly societies' dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this restriction has been amended, so that all benefit members, who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary and the full amount payable to their society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

The societies perform a function which cannot be carried out with the same success by other means—that of providing for the loss which would otherwise be sustained by the wage-earners of the community and those dependent on them through illness or death. Their organization enables them to keep in touch with their members, to guard against malingering, and to perform satisfactorily a work which, on account of its peculiar nature, could not be attended to satisfactorily by institutions organized on the lines of the ordinary insurance company. Their main objects are to afford relief in sickness, and to provide a sufficient sum to cover funeral expenses on the death of a member or his wife. The usual sickness benefits are 20s. per week during the first six months of sickness, 10s. per week during the second six months, and 5s. per week thereafter so long as the sickness continues. The member has also the benefit of medical attendance and medicine for himself and his near relatives. A sum of £20 is usually payable on the death of the member, and of £10 on the death of his wife should she predecease him. In view of the provisions of the *Friendly Societies Act 1923*, referred to in a previous paragraph, it is probable that members of societies will soon be given the opportunity to contribute for larger sickness and death benefits than those which are at present provided. The benefits coming under the heading of medical attendance and medicine extend usually to the whole family, embracing in the general case member, wife, and children up to the age of 16 years in the case of males and 18 years in the case of females, widowed mother of unmarried member, and also widow and family after death of member on payment of medical fees.

The funds of the societies are divided into two or more portions. Of these the most important are the sick and funeral fund, out of which are payable the sickness and death benefits, and the medical and management fund, from which are taken the payments for

medical attendance, medicines, and management expenses. The weekly contribution to the sick and funeral fund varies with the age at entry, and for the benefits above mentioned usually ranges from 6d. to 1s. per week. The contribution to the other fund generally remains uniform throughout life, the usual charge being from 8d. to 10d. per week. The total sum payable by each member thus ranges from about 1s. 2d. to 1s. 10d. per week. There are in addition small initiation fees, and, in some instances, registration fees for second wives.

Progress of friendly societies.

The total membership of Victorian friendly societies decreased from 153,921 in 1912 to 146,688 at the close of 1922 — a decrease during the ten years of 7,233 members.

There was a slight decline in the membership between the ends of the years 1914 and 1917 due to deaths of members while on active service and to the absence from Victoria of many young men who might otherwise have joined the societies. A marked decrease in the membership of nearly all societies occurred in 1918 and 1919—the decrease in the earlier year being 7,004 in male and 1,619 in female members, and in the later year 3,918 in male and 1,360 in female members. In 1920 there was a further decline of 757 male and 502 female members, making a total loss for the three years of 11,679 males and 3,481 females. This numerical decrease was principally due to a dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies which led to the resignation of nearly all the medical officers as from 1st February, 1918. A settlement of the dispute has now been arrived at between the Association and all the societies. In 1921 numerical recovery set in, there being an increase during that year of 618 male and 181 female members, and a further increase in 1922 of 2,448 and 420 male and female members respectively.

The funds increased during the ten-year period 1912–22 from £2,361,464 to £3,549,798, there being an addition of £1,188,334. They are well invested, the return from the sick and funeral fund for the year 1922 averaging 4.96 per cent. There is a number of female societies, the particulars for which are included above. At the end of 1922 these had a membership of 10,295 and funds amounting to £82,837.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the years 1918–1922 :—

Year.	Membership (end of year).	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
		£	£	£
1918	149,558	658,435	602,855	3,073,083
1919	144,280	664,526	680,943	3,056,666
1920	143,021	681,232	564,220	3,173,678
1921	143,820	763,031	561,659	3,375,050
1922	146,688	790,788	616,040	3,549,798

The statement which follows contains further information in regard to the societies for the five years, 1918 to 1922 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1918 TO 1922.

(Including Female Societies.)

	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
Number of societies ..	46	49	55	56	57
Number of branches ..	1,496	1,489	1,475	1,464	1,467
Average number of members ..	153,870	146,919	143,651	143,421	145,254
Number of members sick ..	28,326	46,612	29,063	27,342	26,275
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed ..	306,054	406,817	294,818	258,540	258,851
Deaths of members ..	2,525	2,211	1,381	1,302	1,299
Deaths of registered wives ..	473	751	471	526	476
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund.. ..	352,973	367,878	358,726	408,193	370,568
Income of incidental fund	275,022	265,672	289,367	319,957	385,821
Other Income	30,440	30,976	33,139	34,881	34,399
Total Income	658,435	664,526	681,232	763,031	790,788
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund	308,804	375,733	250,589	235,593	280,631
Expenditure of incidental fund.. ..	265,954	276,442	282,592	295,447	296,980
Other Expenditure	28,097	28,768	31,039	30,619	32,429
Total Expenditure	602,855	680,943	564,220	561,659	610,040
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund	2,884,718	2,876,863	2,985,000	3,157,600	3,241,528
Amount to credit of incidental fund	113,898	103,128	109,903	134,413	223,223
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund	2,808,057	2,783,425	2,889,409	3,046,251	3,155,993
Amount invested—incidental fund	105,329	103,128	109,871	134,413	221,174
Amounts invested—other funds	71,047	71,268	76,680	80,144	81,898
Total invested	2,984,433	2,957,821	3,075,960	3,260,808	3,459,065
„ funds	3,073,083	3,056,666	3,173,678	3,375,050	3,549,798

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 table.

Societies lost through secessions 6.5 per cent. of their members in 1922, 7.8 per cent. in 1921, 8.2 per cent. in 1920, 8.5 per cent. in 1919, 7.5 per cent. in 1918, and 6.0 per cent. in 1917. The higher secession rates in the four years 1918-1921 were due mainly to the dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies, which is referred to in a previous paragraph. They were due, in part, to a number of members who had

Secessions
and expenses.

been on active service and whose contributions had been paid for them while absent from Australia having failed to resume payment of contributions on their return. 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. Expenses of management absorbed slightly less than 19½ per cent. of the contributions to all funds during 1922. This ratio is considerably below the usual rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the benefits and contributions are usually payable fortnightly and that this entails a great deal of administrative work, it will be seen that the rate of expense is very moderate.

An investigation was made into the sickness and mortality experience of three of the largest Victorian friendly societies for the period 1903-07. This relates to male lives only. Tables containing rates of sickness and mortality obtained by the investigation are given in the *Year-Book* for 1913-14.

The following statement shows the number of weeks' sickness experienced by male members of ordinary friendly societies, and the number per effective member, in respect of which claims for sick pay were received in 1914 (the last year unaffected by the war), 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, and 1922; also the number of deaths of male members of such societies in those years and the number per 1,000 effective members:—

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.			Deaths.	
		Number.	Number per Effective Member.		Number.	Number per 1,000 Effective Members.
			Weeks.	Weeks.			Days.
1914..	125,952	216,520	1	4	1,263	10·03
1917..	128,989	257,847	2	0	2,409	18·68
1918..	125,667	288,088	2	2	2,457	19·55
1919..	119,308	382,247	3	1	2,080	17·43
1920..	114,797	278,401	2	3	1,313	11·44
1921..	113,666	240,207	2	1	1,224	10·77
1922..	115,426	241,021	2	1	1,221	10·58

The large increase in the sickness rate of 1919 was due chiefly to members who had been on active service having deferred until their return to the Commonwealth 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.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

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.

This small provision was administered by the Board of Public Health, and was followed, in 1885, by a much larger statute, providing for the registration of factories, their sanitation, fire escape, and guarding of machinery, and regulating the conditions of work generally to a much greater extent than formerly, besides providing for the closing of shops at fixed hours. These latter provisions were designed to give some relief to the employees, who could previously be kept at work in shops as long as their employers chose.

From that time onwards further legislative provisions have been passed at frequent intervals, and gradually the community has come to recognise the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and reasonable ease of the workers. The opposition, which was at first very strong, has gradually disappeared, until now it is safe to say that all sections of the community realize the humanitarian aspects of the movement, and have accepted the principle that the rights of work-people shall be conserved by law.

The interests of the factory worker as regards wages, personal safety, and health now receive a large amount of attention. Government inspectors prosecute employers wherever underpayment is found. They take proceedings also to carry out all the provisions of the factory laws. No one can occupy a factory unless the place is properly lighted and ventilated, has ample means of escape in case of fire, has all its machinery fenced and guarded, and has proper sanitary arrangements provided for both sexes. The Minister may now require the occupier of any factory, shop, or place to provide for the use of the employees a dining-room and a bath-room, and, for the use of the

female employees, suitable sitting accommodation and a rest-room. The closing time of shops is carefully regulated. The hours of shop employees are restricted, and they must be given a half-holiday every week.

**Wages
Boards.**

The Wages Board system of fixing wages and settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria.

It was introduced into an Act of Parliament in 1896 by Sir Alexander Peacock. The principle embodied in the British jury system that a man can only be tried by his peers is the essence of the Victorian Wages Board scheme. The Boards are composed of equal numbers of employers and employees. The representatives are carefully chosen, so that every shade of interest in the trade shall be represented as fully as possible on the Board. The Board thus becomes a jury of trade experts, all of whom are versed in the requirements and intricacies of the trade they are dealing with.

An application for a Board in any trade which has not been brought under the Wages Board system can be made either by a Union or by a meeting of employees. Upon receipt of such an application the Minister usually orders the collection of figures to show the rates of wages, the average number of hours worked, the number of persons employed in the trade, and so on. If he finds that there is good reason, the Governor in Council may appoint a Wages Board and define the scope of its operations. The Board consists of from six to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employees), who nominate some outside person as chairman; or, if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor in Council appoints the chairman. The Board may fix the rates of payment either by piece-work or wages, or both; the maximum number of hours per week or per day for which such rates shall be paid; a higher rate for work done in excess of such maximum number of hours; the times of beginning and ending work, including the hours of each shift; a higher rate for work done outside such times; special rates for casual work in the case of any trade not usually carried on in a factory or shop, or for work done on Sundays and public holidays, and for time occupied in travelling to and from work; the day and latest hour when payment of wages is to be made, also what notice of termination of employment shall be given by either employer or worker; and the number of and the rates of pay to apprentices and improvers who may be employed. Casual work is now defined in the Act as work or labour during any week for not more than one-half of the maximum number of hours fixed by the Wages Board appointed to fix rates for the work in question.

By an amendment of the law made in 1922 the Boards are given power to provide that in trades carried on in factories or shops a

person working fewer hours than those fixed for an ordinary week's work shall be paid from 33 to 50 per cent. above ordinary wages' rate for the first half of such week's work. For each hour worked beyond the aforesaid first half ordinary rates are payable up to but *not exceeding* the wage fixed by the Board for the full week's work.

By this provision the wages of an employee are stabilized as far as possible. Previously he could be employed on a systematic short time principle each week, and be paid only *pro ratâ* for the hours worked. As a safeguard against imposition on the part of the worker, he is not entitled to any wages if he refuses to complete the full number of hours fixed as a week's work.

NEW BOARDS AND ALTERATION OF POWERS.

The powers conferred on the Governor in Council by the *Factories and Shops Act 1920* to appoint Wages Boards without reference to Parliament were exercised in the following six cases :—

Knitters (Country) Board.	} Appointed in lieu of the Pottery Trade and the Pottery Trade (Country) Boards.
Pottery Trade (Country) Board. (This Board was afterwards divided as shown below.)	
Pottery Glazed Board.	
Pottery Unglazed Board.	
Pottery Glazed (Country) Board.	
Pottery Unglazed (Country) Board.	

Powers were adjusted in one case, viz. :—

The Shops Board No. 19 (Confectionery, Pastry, Fruit, and Vegetable) was deprived of the power to fix rates for persons employed whole or part time in selling confectionery or pastry in any place in which the business of a restaurant is carried on, and such power was conferred exclusively on the Restaurant Board.

Powers were varied in two cases, viz. :—

Sewer Builders Board.
Shops Board No. 21 (Booksellers and Newsagents).

On 31st December, 1922, there were 174 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 184,500 employees.

A Wages Board, having been constituted, meets (until the first Determination is made) as often as it chooses, usually once a week, at

the Factories Office. An officer of the Department of Labour acts as secretary. The members of the Board are paid 10s. a sitting, with the addition of necessary out-of-pocket expenses. Members are paid for not more than seven meetings in the first twelve months after the constitution of the Board, and for not more than four meetings in any subsequent year. The chairman receives £1 per sitting. After a Determination has been arrived at it is sent to the Minister of Labour and gazetted, and it thereupon becomes law. It is then the duty of the officers of the Department of Labour to enforce it. Where the Minister considers that any breach of the law is trivial, or has occurred through a mistake, he administers a warning; in more serious cases he orders a prosecution. The prosecutions are carried out by the officers of the Department of Labour, without expense to the worker, and on a conviction being obtained the Court may make an order for arrears of wages, that may be due for any period not exceeding twelve months, to be paid. It is, however, open to any worker, if he has made demand in writing on the employer within two months from the date same became due, to sue in a civil court for the amount of wages owing to him.

Provision has been made in the law for the constitution of a Court of Industrial Appeals for deciding all appeals against a Determination of a Wages Board, and for dealing with any Determination of a Special Board referred to the Court by the Minister. The Court has been asked to make or alter fifty-nine Determinations. Since 1st January, 1915, it has consisted of a President and two other persons. The President, who must be a Judge of the Supreme Court, holds such office for such period as the Governor in Council thinks fit, and must sit in every Court of Industrial Appeals. Mr. Justice S. McArthur has been appointed President. The other members can only act in the Court for which they are appointed, and one must be a representative of employers and the other a representative of employees. Each must be nominated in writing by the side which he represents, and must have been *bonâ fide* and actually engaged in the trade concerned for at least six months during the three years immediately preceding his nomination. Subject to the Act a majority decision decides every reference to the Court. Since its re-constitution in 1915 it has dealt with forty-one cases. The determination of the Court may now be altered by the Wages Boards without the leave of the Court if twelve months has elapsed since the date of the last Determination of the Court.

Rise in earnings.

During the year 1922 Determinations made by 164 Boards appointed under the Act were in force. The following statement shows the average weekly wage paid to employees in certain trades (1) before the first Determination was

made, (2) in 1914, and (3) in 1922, the figures for the two last mentioned years being the amounts paid to the employees under the Determinations of Wages Boards:—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employees.		
	Before First Determination was made:	In 1914.	In 1922.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aerated Water	1 6 7	1 17 8	3 10 11
Agricultural Implements	1 19 5	2 10 1	4 2 9
Asphalters	2 2 10	2 13 8	4 10 8
Bedsteadmakers	1 12 2	2 9 6	4 2 8
Boot	1 3 2	2 1 7	3 7 2
Bread	1 12 6	3 2 7	5 1 10
Brewers	1 14 4	2 10 2	4 9 4
Brushmakers	1 3 1	2 4 9	3 12 0
Candlemakers	1 4 8	2 4 2	3 11 10
Carpenters	2 7 6	3 3 10	5 5 3
Clothing	1 0 0	1 6 9	2 13 0
" Waterproof	1 2 3	1 17 4	2 17 0
Commercial Clerks	1 10 7	2 9 6	3 8 7
Coopers	1 15 7	3 6 3	5 8 8
Engravers	1 16 11	2 5 11	4 3 0
Farriers	1 15 2	2 4 5	4 11 5
Furniture Trade—			
(a) European (Cabinet making &c.)	1 9 1	2 5 10	3 17 3
(b) European (Mantelpieces) ..	1 13 6	2 9 7	4 1 1
Glassworkers	1 14 11	2 7 3	4 4 5
Hairdressers	1 2 9	2 2 7	3 7 6
Ice	2 10 3	3 4 7	5 12 9
Jewellers	1 13 10	2 9 8	3 19 5
Lift Attendants	1 5 0	2 7 8	3 15 8
Malt	2 1 1	2 17 1	4 4 2
Marine Store	1 5 7	2 5 0	3 12 4
Millet Broom	1 7 11	2 2 9	3 18 4
Painters	2 0 9	2 14 11	4 11 9
Picture Frame	1 3 11	1 19 9	3 14 1
Plate Glass	1 7 6	2 5 11	4 5 8
Plumbers	1 12 8	2 14 4	4 12 9
Pottery	1 8 1	2 0 8	3 15 4
Saddlery	1 7 1	2 2 11	4 3 5
" Country	1 10 7	1 16 11	3 1 0
Shops Board No. 1—(Boot Dealers)	1 6 11	2 0 11	2 16 3
Shops Board No. 3—(Butchers) ..	1 17 8	3 1 2	4 4 2
Shops Board No. 15—(Grocers) ..	1 7 4	2 6 8	3 14 4
Slaters and Tilers	2 0 8	3 7 3	4 12 3
Starch	1 0 9	2 0 6	3 13 3
Stonecutters	1 15 11	3 2 0	5 6 5
Tanners	1 11 9	2 10 6	4 1 0
Watchmakers	1 14 2	2 19 2	4 3 6
Wicker	1 2 11	2 2 4	3 7 4
Woodworkers	1 13 2	2 11 9	4 7 2
" Country	2 9 0	2 14 11	4 11 2

Apprentices. The wages of apprentices in Victoria are fixed by the Wages Boards in each trade. These Boards also prescribe the form of indenture and the term of apprenticeship. Once a boy is indentured, it becomes the duty of the Department of Labour on the one hand to see that he is taught his trade properly, and on the other to enforce his proper attendance at his work, and generally to protect both parties and see that they carry out the agreement.

Factory legislation. The Factories and Shops Acts were consolidated during the year 1915 by the *Factories and Shops Act 1915, No. 2650*. No changes were effected in the law by this measure. The existing Acts were merely consolidated.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1919 (No. 3048)*, passed at the close of the year 1919, made some important changes in the law, but it consists mainly of machinery clauses designed in the interests of the smooth working of the law.

Two short Amending Acts passed at the close of the year 1920 made important alterations in the law.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1920, No. 3093*, altered the procedure regarding the appointment of Wages Boards. In the past these Boards could only be created whilst Parliament was in session. The Governor in Council now has the power to appoint a Wages Board whenever it is deemed expedient to do so, and to alter the scope of any existing Wages Board.

The *Factories and Shops Act 1920, No. 3112*, introduced a new principle in the Legislation. For many years the closing hour of shops has been fixed by law. This Act for the first time fixed a legal opening hour which affects butchers' shops in the Metropolitan District.

Amendment of the law. The Amending Act—*Factories and Shops Act 1922, No. 3252*—made some important alterations, the principal of which are as follows :—

A new scale of fees has been fixed for registration of factories and shops. These will so increase the revenue as to nearly cover the whole cost of the administration of the Department of Labour.

The powers of Wages Boards have been simplified and consolidated.

Rates for casual workers in factories and shops have been put upon a different basis with a view to the stabilizing of the weekly wage.

The appointment of members of Wages Boards has been simplified. Members were formerly appointed for three years, and much trouble was caused in getting new nominations at the date of expiry of each Board. Now Boards are appointed for one year, and every Board expires on the 30th September of each year, but will be automatically

re-appointed unless objection is lodged. Very few objections are anticipated, and much time and expense will be saved.

The Minister now makes all appointments instead of the Governor in Council.

The Governor in Council has now power to exempt new industries from the provisions of Wages Boards for six months, to enable operatives to learn their work.

Bread may now be sold at any hour of the day or night.

The provisions of the Act relating to the guarding of dangerous machinery have been extended so that chaffcutting machines on farms or elsewhere may be guarded for the protection of the workers.

Boards are empowered to fix what notice shall be given by either side of the termination of employment, also to fix the day and latest hour on which wages shall be paid.

Shortly stated, in the Metropolitan District, as defined in the *Factories and Shops Act 1915*, the hours for closing shops are as follows:—Hairdressers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 8 p.m., on Friday at 9 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m. Tobacconists' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 8 p.m.; if the shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m., and may be kept open until 9 p.m. on Friday; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it may be kept open until 8 p.m. on Friday and 9 p.m. on Saturday. Butchers' shops are required to close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 6 p.m. on Friday, and at 12.30 p.m. on Saturday. They are required to be closed till 6 a.m. on Saturday and 7.30 a.m. on other week days. All other shops (except Fourth Schedule shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Friday the closing hour is 9 p.m., and on Saturday 1 p.m.

**Shops,
Metropolitan
District.**

The Fourth Schedule shops are:—

- Bread shops.
- Booksellers' and news agents' shops.
- Confectionery and pastry shops.
- Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.
- Eating-houses.
- Fish and oyster shops.
- Flower shops.
- Fruit and vegetable shops.

The hours for closing such shops are not fixed by the Act, but the Governor in Council is given power to make Regulations for their closing. Section 2 of Act No. 3181, which came into force on 29th August, 1922, provides that such Regulations shall not apply to fruit shops in the area enclosed by Flinders, Spencer, Latrobe, Victoria, and Spring streets, Melbourne.

The following are the only cases where these Regulations have been made. The hour of closing on each day of the week is given :—

—	Regulation Gazetted.	Sun.	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	F.	Saturday.
		P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)..	27th October, 1920	..	6	6	6	6	9	1
Fruit and Vegetable (May to September inclusive only) ..	16th October, 1918	..	7	7	7	7	..	..

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1915* the Minister can grant permission to keepers of certain shops known as "small shops," who would ordinarily be required to close their shops at 6 p.m., to keep open till 8 p.m. Such permission can only be granted to widows and old people, or in cases of great hardship, and only applies to the Metropolitan District.

Provision is also made under the Acts for overtime and tea money for shop employees.

Shops outside the Metropolitan District. The shops provisions of the Acts now apply to the whole State. Previous to 1st January, 1915, they did not apply to shires or portions of shires unless the shopkeepers therein had petitioned for them to be extended, and there was little uniformity throughout the Country Districts either as to the hours of closing shops or the observance of a weekly half-holiday. A universal Saturday half-holiday was legalized by Act No. 2558, passed in November, 1914, the shops being allowed to remain open till 10 p.m. (now altered to 9 p.m.) on Fridays, and the Country Districts were thus brought into line with the Metropolitan District, in which the Saturday half-holiday had been observed for years. In certain cases an exemption may be petitioned for and the half-holiday fixed for a day other than Saturday.

The hours of closing on *other days* outside the Metropolitan District are fixed at 7 p.m., but, if a petition be received from a majority of any class of shopkeepers, they may be fixed earlier or later. The hours have been altered in accordance with this provision in a few municipalities. Hairdressers and tobacconists outside the Metropolitan Districts may choose either Wednesday or Saturday as the day on which they will observe the half-holiday, but, if they choose Wednesday, they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Friday and 10 p.m. on Saturday. If they choose Saturday they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Wednesday and 10 p.m. on Friday. Fourth Schedule shops

are not affected by these provisions. Petrol may be sold at any hour to travellers to enable them to continue their journey.

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st Registration of Shops. March, 1915. The registration fee formerly ranged from 2s. 6d. to 63s., according to the number of persons employed, but from 1st March, 1923, it has varied from 2s. 6d. to £10 (Act 3252, Sec. 4). During the year 1922, 31,192 shops, employing 32,166 persons, were registered, as compared with 28,967 shops, employing 30,910 persons, in 1921.

Registered shops are divided into 27 classes. There was an increase for the year 1922 as compared with 1921 of 2,225 shops, and 1,256 employees. Particulars of the increases and decreases in shops registered are given below:—

INCREASES AND DECREASES IN SHOPS REGISTERED, 1922.

	Metropolitan and Provincial Cities.		Country.		Whole State.	
	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
Bread	271	..	105	..	376	..
Confectionery and Pastry	56	..	26	..	82	..
Booksellers, News Agents						
Fancy Goods Dealers						
Boot Dealers	41	..	..	32	9	..
Boot Repairers	17	..	54	..	71	..
Butchers	122	..	55	..	177	..
Chemists	14	..	6	..	20	..
Crockery	8	..	..	..	8	..
Cycle and Motor .. .. .	..	5	49	..	44	..
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat	52	..	20	..	72	..
Drapery	310	..	32	..	342	..
Fish	22	..	..	5	17	..
Florists	14	..	..	1	13	..
Fruit and Vegetable	145	..	65	..	210	..
Fuel and Fodder	35	..	..	4	31	..
Furniture	41	..	7	..	48	..
Grocers	296	..	21	..	317	..
Hairdressers	63	..	48	..	111	..
Hardware .. .. .	..	21	30	..	9	..
Jewellery .. .. .	..	3	..	2	..	5
Leather Goods	10	..	..	28	..	18
Men's Clothing	15	..	12	..	27	..
Musical Instruments .. .. .	..	9	..	1	..	10
Tobacconists	123	..	2	..	125	..
Mixed .. .. .	..	85	87	..	2	..
Shops not classified	157	..	..	10	147	..
Totals	1,812	123	619	83	2,258	33

Factories. A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons, other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale, or in which electricity is generated for the supply of heat or light, or power, or in which coal gas is made; and also any clay pit or quarry worked in connexion with and occupied by the occupier of any pottery or brickyard. The expression "handicraft" includes any work done in a laundry or in dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories, and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to insure that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. The employment of males under 14 and females under 15 years of age is debarred, but provision is made by which a girl of 14 can receive permission to work in a factory if it be shown that the parents are poor, and that the best interests of the girl will be served. A strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment of all females and of males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency of service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, with the object of preventing or lessening unfair competition. Every employee in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week, this provision being, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers. All earnings must be paid at least once in every fortnight. There were registered in 1886 only 1,949 factories, with 39,506 employees, whereas in 1922 the figures were 9,410 factories, with 126,625 employees.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Government Labour Exchange. Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaux were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by an exchange under the control of the Labour Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment, principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied, when work is available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. The Exchange also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would be otherwise unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the Exchange for the year 1922 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Year and Month.	Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the end of each Month in the Metropolis.	Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.
1922—January	1,510	104
February	1,218	42
March	1,481	77
April	1,408	67
May	1,394	91
June	1,192	38
July	*	83
August	1,286	386
September	803	338
October	*	226
November	615	189
December	573	62

* Figures not available.

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

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1918	8,743	1,729	4,807
1919 •	11,792	1,400	6,656
1920	11,798	1,357	4,457
1921	15,376	1,274	1,913
1922	12,361	1,065	1,703

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the Exchange states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the Exchange is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently a large allowance must be made for duplication of registrations. It would probably be safe to say that the number of distinct individuals applying in any one year would be represented by about half the registrations effected. Also in connexion with the engagements effected in the course of a year allowance must be made for the fact that the same applicants may be

employed more than once during the year, and this further employment, it is considered, would represent about one-sixth to one-eighth of the engagements made.

During the year 1922 the number of railway tickets advanced was 5,688, valued at £5,414, of which £3,963 has been refunded. During the past twenty-two years 53,303 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £42,976, of which £28,987 has been refunded.

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. On that date the Commonwealth Government established the Department of Repatriation, with (the late) Senator the Hon. E. D. Millen as first Minister. Its objects are 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 to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment for disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

Organization of Department. A description of this is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, page 369.

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.

Activities of Department. The activities of the Department include the administration of a wide variety of benefits, such as employment, vocational training, medical treatment, children's education, land settlement and assistance. Under "assistance" establishment in small businesses, furniture loans and grants, educational grants, equipment with tools of trade, and funeral expenses are provided. In co-operation with the State Governments a land settlement scheme has been devised, whereby the Federal Government loans the States money to provide the required holdings and to construct railways or other works necessary to their successful operation. Under this scheme the Commonwealth Government will also make available an average grant of £625 per settler. This will afford every ex-soldier possessing the natural aptitude and fitness an opportunity of ultimately owning his own farm. With the exception of South Australia, all the States have agreed to extend the benefits of the Land Settlement scheme to persons who were munition or war workers, and the Commonwealth Government's advance of £625 will be available for such persons.

Summary of Work of Department. The following is a summary of the work of the Department in Victoria from its inauguration, 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1923 :—

Employment—			
Number of applications received	..	..	82,090
Number of positions filled	..	..	46,986
Assistance other than vocational training and employment—			
Number of applications received	..	..	183,848
Number of applications approved	..	..	166,511
Assistance granted—			
Gifts	..	..	£2,923,658
Loans	..	..	485,543
General	..	..	921,985
Total			£4,331,186

Vocational training statistics from 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1923 :—

Number of applications received	..	..	16,488
Number of applications approved	..	..	11,697
Completed training	..	..	4,585
In training at 30th June, 1923	..	..	1,343

N. B.—The above figures relate to day training only.

Workers' Compensation Act. The principal provisions of this Act are outlined in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 552 to 558. It was amended by an Act (No. 3,217) passed in December, 1922.

The latter Act made the following alterations :—

- (1.) The maximum weekly compensation was increased from £1 10s. to £2.
- (2.) The maximum compensation for total disability or on death (with total dependency) was increased from £500 to £600.
- (3.) The payment for funeral expenses was increased from £50 to £75.
- (4.) The minimum weekly payment to an adult worker was fixed at £1.
- (5.) Various anomalies in the Fourth Schedule were corrected, and
- (6.) Men who contract to fell trees and deliver timber were included in the definition "worker."

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

A State Accident Insurance Office was established shortly after the passing of the Workers' Compensation Act for the purpose of enabling employers to obtain from the State policies of insurance indemnifying them against their liability in relation to workers' compensation. It commenced business on the day on which the Act came into operation—7th November, 1914.

The following table contains a statement of the premium income, the claims paid, and the accumulated funds for each year since the establishment of the office :—

PREMIUMS RECEIVED, CLAIMS PAID, AND ACCUMULATED FUNDS OF THE STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE, 1914-15 to 1922-23.

Year.	Premiums received, less Reinsurances, Rebates, &c.	Claims (including those outstanding).	Accumulated Funds.	
			General Reserve.	Bonus Reserve.
	£	£	£	£
1914-15* ..	27,502	3,006	2,750	1,494
1915-16 ..	25,647	12,370	9,750	5,459
1916-17 ..	26,249	13,977	14,750	†7,506
1917-18 ..	27,426	14,250	19,000	3,824
1918-19 ..	28,650	17,567	23,000	6,986
1919-20 ..	32,473	21,412	26,000	†10,080
1920-21 ..	39,363	26,863	28,500	2,702
1921-22 ..	42,475	26,765	32,000	6,747
1922-23 ..	50,222	26,752	38,500	†14,552

* Refers to a period of eight months only (7th November, 1914, to 30th June, 1915). Insurance was not compulsory until 7th May, 1915.

† Bonus distributed amongst policy holders.

The expense rate of the year 1922-23—14.8 per cent.—shows a reduction of 1.7 per cent. as compared with the previous year's rate. This satisfactory figure is the result of careful regard to economy, and is the lowest expense rate of any insurance office in Australasia transacting Workers' Compensation Insurance business. The number of claims settled in the year mentioned and in course of settlement at the end of the year was 2,544.

It is obligatory on every employer to obtain from the **Compulsory Insurance.** State Accident Insurance Office or from an insurance company approved by the Governor in Council a policy of accident insurance for the full amount of his liability to pay compensation under the Act.

The number of insurance companies approved by the Governor in Council as at 30th June, 1923, was 57. One of the conditions of approval was that the company should deposit with the Treasurer a sum of not less than £6,000 (except in the case of subsidiary or acquired companies, where provision has been made for a smaller deposit), which sum was to be held in trust to insure the due fulfilment of policy obligations. The total amount lodged by all the companies which had been approved at the date mentioned was £320,000.

Up to the present (November, 1923) one scheme of **Schemes of Compensation.** compensation has been certified by a Judge of County Courts in accordance with Section 13 of the Act.

The Revenue Account and Profit and Loss Account for **Accounts.** the year ended 30th June, 1923, and the Balance-sheet as at the end of that year are appended :—

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1923.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Claims				26,573	4	9
Less claims recovered	521	3	7			
Provision for unadjusted claims as at 30th June, 1922	7,500	0	0			
				8,021	3	7
				18,552	1	2
Provision for unearned premiums				22,600	0	0
Provision for unadjusted claims				8,200	0	0
Net Revenue, carried down				19,983	13	0
Total				£69,335	14	2

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Premiums for year	52,827	19	2			
Less reinsurances and rebates	2,605	5	0			
				50,222	14	2
Provision for unearned premiums, 30th June, 1922				19,115	0	0
Total				£69,335	14	2

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1923.

	£	s.	d.
Administration Expenses, Act No. 2750	200	0	0
Agents' Expenses and Commission	2,413	13	3
Expenses of Management, including Salaries	4,836	6	10
Net Profit	14,305	13	2
Total	£21,755	13	3

	£	s.	d.
Net Revenue, brought down	19,983	13	0
Interest on Investments and Funds at Treasury	1,772	0	3
Total	£21,755	13	3

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1923.

<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Unearned Premiums				22,600	0	0
Outstanding Claims				8,200	0	0
Sundry Accounts unpaid—						
On account Agents	235	3	2			
Others	16	16	10			
				252	0	0
General Reserve				32,000	0	0
Bonus Reserve				6,746	7	10
Profit for year 1922-23 to be appropriated—						
To General Reserve	6,500	0	0			
Bonus Reserve	7,805	13	2			
				14,305	13	2
Total				£84,104	1	0

<i>Assets.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount of Funds at Treasury				44,597	0	0
Premiums due				235	8	9
Treasury Interest Accrued				458	11	1
Stamps on Hand				60	13	4
General Reserve Fund				32,000	0	0
Bonus Reserve Fund				6,746	7	10
Total				£84,104	1	0

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered relief to persons in necessitous circumstances or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1922, was 227. The total receipts of all the organizations were £3,225,132, of which £2,471,375 was contributed by the Government and £753,757 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure was £3,177,337. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year in charitable and reformatory institutions was 16,013, and there were no less than 185,944 distinct cases of out-door relief. With regard to the out-door relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; in these latter cases, unfortunately, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

The following table gives in summarized form full particulars in relation to all these charitable and reformatory institutions, and shows the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in the institutions, and the total number of distinct cases receiving out-door relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.— INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1921-22.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (Including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	53	2,274·0	72,280	73,009	315,502	388,511	385,186
Women's Hospital	1	185·6	4,276	3,875	23,334	27,209	28,221
Children's Hospital	1	175·0	15,823	4,293	39,873	44,166	41,275
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	35·5	3,643	450	7,906	8,356	24,561
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	73·0	..	5,470	574	6,044	6,044
Heatherton Sanatorium	1	92·3	..	5,817	6,585	12,402	12,402
Convalescent Homes	2	31·9	..	289	2,319	2,608	2,918
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions	4	348·9	13,681	4,465	71,648	76,113	37,499
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylums, and Receiving Houses	12	6,006·0	..	338,223	45,632	383,855	383,855
Foundling Hospitals	2	325·2	..	3,718	8,404	12,122	12,378
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	314·0	..	31,338	36,408	67,746	63,946
Total	79	9,861·4	109,703	470,947	558,185	1,029,132	998,285

**CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—INMATES,
RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1921-22—continued.**

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	1,922·4	328	£ 21,122	£ 45,193	£ 66,315	£ 62,261
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	75·0	16	..	6,591	6,591	3,896
Freemasons' Homes* ..	1	18·0	..	..	4,927	4,927	2,527
Benevolent Societies ..	81	..	14,534	8,807	26,107	34,914	33,647
Orphan Asylums ..	10	1,808·4	..	4,400	41,994	46,394	44,051
Total ..	101	3,823·8	14,878	34,329	124,812	159,141	146,382
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools ..	12	532·0	13,257	301,883	13,125	315,008	315,008
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	35·0	..	3,845	967	4,812	4,812
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	21·1	..	506	1,575	1,881	2,157
Female Refuges ..	10	694·5	..	2,405	38,647	41,052	36,975
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	3	135·0	..	341	7,065	7,406	7,302
Prison Association of Victoria	1	..	643	510	495	1,005	1,092
Goals and Penal Establishments	15	806·0	..	74,161	..	74,161	74,161
Total ..	43	2,223·6	13,900	333,451	61,874	445,325	441,508
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners ..	..	..	42,402	1,581,898	..	1,581,898	1,581,898
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	104·6	..	650	5,206	5,856	5,353
Charity Organization Society	1	..	466	..	2,648	2,648	2,856
Free Dispensaries ..	2	..	4,595	100	1,032	1,132	1,055
Total ..	4	104·6	47,463	1,582,648	8,886	1,591,534	1,591,162
Grand Total..	227	16,013·4	185,944	2,471,375	753,757	3,225,132	3,177,337

* Figures for 1920-21, no later ones being available.

Charitable
Institutions
—receipts and
expenditure.

The receipts of all charitable institutions for the year 1921-22 amounted to £1,569,073, of which £815,316, or 52 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £1,521,278. Of the Government contribution, £655,238 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Greenvale and Heatherton Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

Charitable
Institutions—
receipts and
expenditure,
1913-1922.

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1913 it was £852,082, and it had increased to £1,521,278 in 1922. This is equivalent to an advance of about 79 per cent. The aid from Government increased by 74 per cent., and that from other sources by 117 per cent. in the period mentioned. Information in regard to the receipts and expenditure in each year of the period is given in the accompanying table:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1913 TO 1922.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extraordinary Repairs.	Maintenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1913 ..	468,588	347,963	816,551	179,514	668,084	4,484	852,082
1914 ..	485,018	347,053	832,071	154,565	705,768	6,529	866,862
1915 ..	541,668	349,421	891,089	137,589	774,873	6,685	919,147
1916 ..	525,682	418,050	943,732	89,904	846,339	8,863	945,106
1917 ..	543,225	562,598	1,045,823	132,601	850,357	10,619	993,577
1918 ..	541,817	465,809	1,007,626	67,254	895,919	8,968	972,141
1919 ..	578,055	497,945	1,076,000	62,144	963,647	16,504	1,042,295
1920 ..	681,626	638,356	1,319,982	66,191	1,155,558	8,817	1,230,566
1921 ..	818,766	709,011	1,527,777	95,153	1,351,856	12,154	1,459,163
1922 ..	815,316	758,757	1,569,073	166,145	1,339,982	15,151	1,521,278

Charitable
Institutions
—average
cost per
inmate.

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

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1921-22.

Description of Institution.	Daily average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average cost of each inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2,274	321,131	141 4 4
Women's Hospital	185	27,286	147 9 10
Children's Hospital	175	29,811	170 7 0
Eye and Ear Hospital	71	9,891	139 6 2
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	35	4,964	141 16 7
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	314	48,703	155 2 1
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ...	131	3,381	25 16 2
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	194	6,838	35 4 11
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	73	5,625	77 1 1
Heatherton Sanatorium	92	7,983	86 15 5
Receiving Houses for the Insane Hospitals for the Insane	6,006	360,879	60 1 9
Idiot Asylum			
Benevolent Asylums	1,922	58,469	30 8 5
Convalescent Homes	32	2,475	77 6 10
Blind Asylums	172	7,093	41 4 9
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	106	5,684	53 12 5
Orphan Asylums	1,808	33,684	18 12 7
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	13,789*	308,565	22 7 7
Female Refuges	694	35,904	51 14 8
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	135	5,979	44 5 9
Old Colonists' Association	72	3,841	53 6 11
Lara Inebriates' Institution	35	4,062	116 1 2
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	21	2,157	102 14 3
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	105	4,504	42 17 11
Freemasons' Home	18	2,422	134 11 1
Total	28,459	1,301,331	45 14 6

* Including children boarded out with their own mothers.

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

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Orphan Asylums, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory

Department cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is not a correct indication of the burden on the public. The true cost per head of those supported by the State is somewhat higher. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospitals, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospitals, and for infants in the other institutions mentioned.

Of the total income of charitable institutions in 1921–22 more than half was contributed by the Government, and 12½ per cent. was collected from patients. The receipts of hospitals and other charitable institutions in the State under various headings are shown hereunder :—

SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS
IN VICTORIA, 1921–22.

Receipts.	General Hospitals.	Women's Hospital.	Children's Hospital.	Eye and Ear Hospital.	Queen's Memorial Hospital.	Other Hospitals.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid	73,009	3,875	4,293	2,000	31,338	4,168	606,633	815,316
Municipal Grants	12,200	437	487	314	32,111	336	9,609	55,494
Private Contributions ..	45,035	1,444	9,374	678	1,019	2,916	49,700	113,166
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	32,678	126	766	510	..	483	4,653	39,214
Legacies, Bequests, Special Donations and Proceeds of Intestate Estates	96,085	5,921	19,576	2,072	..	7,351	76,684	207,689
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations	23,285	2,771	3,486	1,284	..	752	3,151	34,729
Contributions of Indoor Patients	59,536	7,445	2,400	1,779	..	2,161	99,005	172,326
Out-patients' Fees	13,284	545	2,197	2,232	..	1,156	..	19,414
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	..	937	1,202	615	50	830	38,716	38,716
Interest or Rent	15,440	..	..	..	..	..	11,763	30,837
Other Sources	14,961	3,708	385	528	3,228	325	19,037	42,172
Total	388,511	27,209	44,166	12,012	67,746	20,478	1,008,951	1,569,073

Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are given below. The information relates to the year ended 30th June, 1922, except in the case of the

Charitable Institutions—accommodation.

Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, where it relates to the calendar year 1922. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns, seven of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows :—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1921-22.

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic Feet.		
General Hospitals ..	53	445	4,834,155	3,627	1,333
Women's Hospital ..	1	27	229,970	209	1,100
Children's Hospital ..	1	22	165,369	186	889
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	4	25,730	36	715
Eye and Ear Hospital ..	1	16	89,248	92	970
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	50	499,098	514	971
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ..	1	7	70,376	167	421
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home ..	1	9	124,000	110	1,127
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives ..	1	13	58,582	90	651
Heatherton Sanatorium ..	1	13	99,728	96	1,039
Receiving Houses for the Insane ..	2	22	63,782	93	686
Hospitals for the Insane ..	9	1,368	3,563,043	5,158	691
Idiot Asylum ..	1	20	114,288	358	319
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	185	1,957,523	2,383	821
Convalescent Homes ..	2	22	68,790	59	1,166
Blind Asylums ..	2	13	97,200	98	992
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ..	1	4	87,604	100	876
Orphan Asylums ..	10	92	919,845	1,703	513
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools ..	12	71	661,472	980	675
Female Refuges ..	10	178	641,303	849	765
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ..	3	16	84,418	173	488
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	11	46,796	50	936
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	13	25,407	33	770
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	1	23	73,669	116	635
Total ..	125	2,644	14,601,396	17,370	841

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

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1921-22.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
General Hospitals	34,161	2,274·0	2,749	per cent. 8·6
Women's Hospital	5,166	185·6	123	2·4
Children's Hospital	2,990	175·0	374	12·5
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,726	71·2	8	·5
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	490	35·5	15	3·1
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	4,056	314·0	85	2·1
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	184	131·4	11	6·0
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	263	193·8	4	1·5
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	312	73·0	6	1·9
Heatherton Sanatorium	266	92·3	74	27·8
Receiving Houses for the Insane	903	82·0	37	4·1
Hospitals for the Insane	6,593	5,554·0	354	5·4
Idiot Asylum	6,412	370·0	22	5·3
Benevolent Asylums	3,642	1,922·4	473	13·0
Convalescent Homes	787	31·9	1	·1
Blind Asylums	221	171·6	5	2·3
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	130	106·1	..	..
Orphan Asylums	2,412	1,808·4	1	·04
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	14,602	13,789·0	56	·4
Female Refuges	1,263	694·5	10	·8
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	511	135·0	..	..
Old Colonists' Association	75	72·0	6	8·0
Lara Inebriates' Institution	204	35·0	..	..
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	74	21·1	1	1·4
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	129	104·6	..	..
Freemasons' Home	21	18·0	2	9·5
Total	87,593	28,461·4	4,417	5·0

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 43 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 80 mothers of infants in St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows, 273 infants in the Female Refuges, and 204 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

The following statement contains particulars as to the number of beds, the number of patients treated, and the deaths which occurred in general hospitals during the year 1921-22. The receipts, distinguishing moneys received from the

Patients treated, etc., in hospitals.

Government and other sources, and the expenditure per head for maintenance (based on the average number of indoor patients) are also shown :—

**NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED IN GENERAL HOSPITALS;
ALSO DEATHS, TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
PER HEAD FOR MAINTENANCE, 1921-22.**

Hospital.	Number of Beds.	Total Indoor Patients treated during Year.	Average Daily Number of Indoor Patients treated.	Number of Deaths.	Receipts.			Expenditure per Head for Maintenance.		
					From Government.	Other.	Total.			
					£	£	£	£	s.	d.
Amherst ..	100	324	58.2	10	3,011	1,433	4,444	63	3	11
Ararat ..	70	496	35.3	44	850	2,370	3,220	83	9	8
Ballarat ..	170	1,285	76.0	115	2,500	20,270	22,770	120	6	1
Beechworth ..	95	296	17.5	17	565	1,350	2,415	130	12	7
Bendigo ..	222	2,047	112.7	127	4,250	21,321	26,071	155	9	6
Castlemaine ..	75	469	36.5	38	1,000	2,246	3,246	101	17	3
Daylesford ..	52	246	20.3	11	460	1,465	1,925	117	8	9
Geelong ..	217	1,497	124.2	86	1,975	10,321	12,296	99	15	4
Hamilton ..	91	592	42.1	30	726	4,051	4,777	89	5	3
Kyneton ..	54	332	19.7	29	450	2,120	2,570	122	13	11
Maryborough ..	95	439	25.0	19	800	1,667	2,467	101	13	7
Melbourne ..	358	6,446	353.0	311	20,500	61,597	82,097	229	8	3
Alfred ..	168	2,673	139.0	248	8,768	39,425	48,193	233	10	6
Austin ..	290	564	264.0	220	5,800	22,284	28,084	94	2	6
Homœopathic ..	98	1,374	108.2	67	2,000	9,752	11,752	105	12	11
St. Vincent's ..	126	2,391	128.0	160	5,500	25,036	30,536	169	19	1
Mooroopna ..	104	1,358	83.9	74	1,290	7,067	8,357	87	11	2
Salo ..	68	827	59.9	51	810	4,845	5,655	89	3	0
Stawell ..	66	196	12.5	16	390	1,765	2,155	183	18	5
Swan Hill ..	52	552	35.1	36	500	3,441	3,941	108	13	3
Wangaratta ..	65	735	37.2	31	1,000	3,459	4,459	94	11	11
Warrnambool ..	92	521	43.4	28	1,050	3,326	4,376	86	11	4
*Other Hospitals	899	8,501	437.3	481	8,814	63,391	72,205	136	7	9
Total ..	3,627	34,161	2,274.0	2,749	73,009	315,502	388,511	141	4	4

* 31 in number.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1922.

An Act (No. 3260) to amend the law relating to the management of hospitals and charities in the State of Victoria was passed by the State Parliament in the year 1922. Its principal provisions are as follows :—

Part I. provides for the appointment by the Governor in Council of a Board to be called the Charities Board of Victoria and to consist of 14 members, which is to be constituted as under :—

- (a) Four persons to be nominated by the body known as the Metropolitan Hospitals Association, one at least of whom is to be a legally qualified medical practitioner ;

- (b) Four persons to be nominated by the body known as the Country Hospitals Association, one at least of whom is to be a legally qualified medical practitioner ;
- (c) Two persons to be appointed from persons nominated by the committees of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies within the metropolis (other than hospitals), one at least of whom is to be a woman ;
- (d) Two persons to be appointed from persons nominated by the committees of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies outside of the metropolis (other than hospitals), one at least of whom is to be a woman ;
- (e) Two other persons, one of whom is to be appointed as a member of the Metropolitan Standing Committee and the other as a member of the Country Standing Committee to be provided for under the Act.

The duties of the Board are from time to time to make such inquiries as it thinks fit and to report to the Minister as to :—

- (a) What charitable relief is required to meet the needs of the diseased, infirm, incurable, poor, or destitute persons resident in Victoria (including children and convalescent patients) ;
- (b) What institutions or benevolent societies should in the opinion of the Board be subsidized ;
- (c) What sum of money should in the opinion of the Board be paid from the Fund, and for what purposes, to each subsidized institution or benevolent society in any financial year ; and
- (d) Any amendments of existing legislation and proposals for future legislation which are in its opinion desirable for carrying into effect any of the objects or purposes referred to in the Act, and in particular for improvement in and the prevention of overlapping in the administration of institutions and benevolent societies.

Special powers of the Board include the closing of any subsidized institution including a benevolent society (not being a separate institution) and the amalgamation of any two or more subsidized institutions (not being separate institutions). Before the Board can exercise the power of closing an institution it must be satisfied that the institution or benevolent society is seriously mismanaged or that the funds thereof are substantially applied otherwise than for affording the relief for which the institution or benevolent society exists, or that the accommodation provided is defective, insanitary, or unsuitable, or that relief can be provided more effectively and economically by some other institution or benevolent society. All institutions existing before the commencement of the Act must be registered within six months of a date to be fixed by the Board, and every institution established subsequently must register in order to participate in any grant or aid of any kind

from the Consolidated Revenue or from any municipality. A non-registered charity will not be allowed to appeal or apply to any person or body of persons for any contributions towards its funds.

A fund to be called "The Hospitals and Charities Fund" is to be established and kept in the Treasury, to which the Government will contribute £130,000 for the financial year 1922-23. The salary of an Inspector of Charities, who will be appointed under the Act, together with the remuneration of other necessary officers and expenses will be paid out of the fund. Subject to these payments the fund may be applied to the establishment or maintenance of subsidized institutions or benevolent societies, the cost of the erection of new buildings or of repairs, additions, alterations, or equipment of existing buildings used for the purposes of any subsidized institution or for any other prescribed purposes. Matters to be considered in making payments out of the fund are the financial position of each institution or benevolent society, and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the next financial year otherwise than from the fund, the probable net receipts and expenditure of that financial year, also the actual number of persons relieved by it, the average number of beds (if any) occupied, the average length of stay of patients, and the average cost per bed during the preceding financial year.

Other sections relate to restrictions on certain means of raising money for institutions, the incorporation and government of hospitals and philanthropic institutions generally, the liability of patients to contribute for the relief afforded them according to their means, and the power to resume land required for institutions in the manner provided by the *Lands Compensation Act 1915*.

The origin of this institution belongs to the very 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 recent years.

It has always been the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain 358 beds, in which 6,446 in-patients were treated in 1921-22, the daily average number of in-patients being 358. In the out-patients' and casualty departments 37,414 persons were treated in that year. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 152,112.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1922, numbered 284,888, and the out-patients, 1,225,154.

In 1921-22 the Government grant for maintenance amounted to £20,500; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £916; private contributions amounted to £10,347; entertainments in aid to £27;

bequests to £17,711; Hospital Sunday collections to £7,629; payments and contributions by indoor patients to £7,410; and out-patients' fees to £5,202; interest yielded a revenue of £5,305; and £7,050 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £82,097, and the expenditure was £84,295.

The Melbourne Hospital is also a Training School for Nurses, and has a nursing staff of 162. 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 is proving of valuable assistance in the many lines of research which are being conducted by an efficient and highly-trained staff.

Other Hospitals, &c. 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 are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 383 to 385.

CONSUMPTION SANATORIA.

Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium. The Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium at Broadmeadows for incipient and early stage cases was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. It was established by the Government, and is under the control of the Public Health Department. During the year ended 31st December, 1922, 311 patients were treated at the sanatorium, 71 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number, 138 did very well and were discharged apparently cured or greatly benefited; 60 were discharged benefited but with the disease not arrested, and 49 were discharged not benefited or incurable. The last-mentioned cases include patients who were discharged either at their own request after a brief stay, or for disciplinary reasons, and some who were sent in for a short period for educational purposes. Five deaths occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 59 patients remaining under care. The benefits of treatment and education that the institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages have now been received by 4,955 patients. Of these, 3,175 had the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 943 were not benefited or were incurable; 95 died; 683 left of their own accord; and 59 remained at the end of 1922. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the sanatorium the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed. There is now accommodation for the treatment of 90 patients.

**Amherst
and
Heatherton
Sanatoria.**

The Amherst Sanatorium, for early-stage cases, is maintained by the Government and administered by the local hospital authorities under the direction of the Public Health Department. It is for the treatment of females only. At this institution there is accommodation for 56 patients. During the year 1922, 143 patients were treated, of whom 64 were discharged with their condition much improved; 14 left of their own accord; 12 left, not benefited; 8 died; and 45 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Sanatorium treatment has now been received by 1,986 patients. Of these, 1,643 were discharged cured or relieved; 66 left of their own accord; 182 were incurable; 50 died; and 45 remained on 31st December, 1922.

There is a sanatorium for intermediate and advanced cases at Heatherton, near Cheltenham Benevolent Asylum, which now contains 124 beds. There were on 1st January, 1922, 90 persons in the institution, and the number admitted during the succeeding twelve months was 208, making a total of 298 who received treatment during the year 1922. Of these, 105 were discharged, 85 died, and 108 were under care at the end of the year.

With regard to other cases of advanced consumption, 146 beds are provided at the Austin Hospital.

**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. Full information in regard to the formation of classes may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. J. Harold Lord, 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone, Central 1370.)

**Victorian Civil
Ambulance
Service.**

This service attended to 10,406 calls, of which 1,205 were accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1923; the mileage travelled was 95,269. In 1,126 cases no fee was paid. Country trips, to the number of 783, were undertaken during the year. The registered office and head depôt is situated at 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone, Central 121.)

**Charity
Organization
Society.**

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

The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1923, were—Administration Account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £1,553; expenditure, £1,621; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £1,188; expenditure, £1,107; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £103; expenditure, £71. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 1,181, of which 481 were new cases investigated. Many of these new cases concerned returned soldiers or soldiers' dependants who came under the notice of the society, not as normal cases of distress, but through

various patriotic and repatriation organizations. Since the outbreak of war in 1914 the Society has been called upon to investigate over 8,000 cases of this class. During the year under review, 72 men and women obtained temporary or permanent employment through the Society's assistance, and 404 men were provided with work at the Society's wood-yard. The records of the Society now contain more than 32,000 social histories of distressed families and individuals.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria Humane Society." Its objects are as follows:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures; (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia; (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful; (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes.

During the year ended 30th June, 1923, 69 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 19 certificates, 22 bronze medals, 1 clasp to bronze medal, 8 silver medals, and 1 gold medal were granted. The receipts during 1922-23 amounted to £467, and the expenditure to £427. The institution has placed and maintains 343 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. The society has 156 honorary correspondents, residing as follows:—54 in Victoria, 35 in New South Wales, 25 in New Zealand, 28 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 3 in Western Australia.

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

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." Its objects are:—(1) To promote technical education in life saving and resuscitation of the apparently drowned; (2) To stimulate public opinion in favour of the general adoption of swimming and life saving as a branch of instruction in schools, colleges, &c.; (3) To encourage floating, diving, plunging, and such other swimming arts as would be of assistance to a person endeavouring to save life; (4) To arrange and promote public lectures, demonstrations and competitions, and to form classes of instruction, so as to bring about a widespread and thorough knowledge of the principles which underlie the art of natation

The work done by the society has increased greatly since its inauguration, and in 1922-23 the awards granted totalled 1,425. The whole

Royal
Humane
Society.

Royal Life
Saving
Society.

of the State schools in Victoria have become affiliated to the society, and it is expected that the awards will be considerably increased as the result of this connexion.

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, 1922, 2,818 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 2,456 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 222 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 £5,257 and the expenditure to £4,002.

Hospital Saturday and Sunday. In Melbourne and suburbs the last Saturday and Sunday of October in each year are set apart for making collections in aid of the charitable institutions. The following amounts were collected in each of the last seven years:—1916, £18,525; 1917, £19,020; 1918, £22,447; 1919, £18,586; 1920, £19,750; 1921, £29,723; and 1922, £20,368 (including a bequest of £2,461 from the estate of a deceased person).

The total amount which has been collected since the movement was inaugurated in 1873 is £495,318.

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions in 1922 are given hereunder:—

	£
Melbourne Hospital	5,360
Children's Hospital	2,503
Alfred Hospital	2,382
St. Vincent's Hospital	1,585
Women's Hospital	1,817
Benevolent Asylum	750
Austin Hospital	1,417
Homœopathic Hospital	943
Eye and Ear Hospital	775
St. John Ambulance Association	600
Melbourne District Nursing Society	600
Queen Victoria Hospital	445
Other Institutions	890
Total distributed	<u>20,067</u>

Wattle Day. On a day fixed, about the middle of August in each year, ladies attired in white costumes sell sprigs of wattle blossom in the streets and elsewhere, and the amounts obtained

are allotted to charities for children. The sums which have been raised each year during the last nine years are as follows:—1914, £2,115; 1915, £2,553; 1916, £8,604; 1917, £7,000; 1918, £7,238; 1919, £5,393; 1920, £4,304; 1921, £5,951; and 1922, £5,293. From 1915 to 1920 the Wattle Day collection was organized and controlled by the Commonwealth Button Fund, and emblematic “buttons” and badges were sold in addition to wattle blossom. The Commonwealth Button Fund was wound up in January, 1921, and the organization of the annual Wattle Day appeal is now undertaken by the Children’s Welfare Association, 149 Swanston-street, Melbourne. This association consists of all the societies participating in the appeal, and its work is carried out by a body of voluntary assistants.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act. 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 amounts of pensions payable and the persons entitled to receive them. The amounts have since been increased.

The maximum pension, whether old-age or invalid, is 17s. 6d. per week, and 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 number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1923, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 11,728; women, 19,520; total, 31,248. Invalid pensioners—men, 5,569; women, 6,138; total, 11,707.

Of the persons living in Victoria at or above the ages at which old-age pensions commence, 31 per cent. were receiving pensions on 30th June, 1923.

Pensioners, 1901 to 1922-23. The State system of old-age pensions came into force on 18th January, 1901, and the highest number of pensioners was reached in November, 1901, when 16,300 were on the register. Alterations in the Act in the direction of compelling relatives, when in a position to do so, to support applicants for pensions had the effect of reducing the number to 10,732 in 1907. On 1st July, 1909, when the Federal Act came into operation, there were 12,368 old-age pensioners in Victoria. Thereafter the number rapidly increased, and on 30th June, 1923, it had reached a total of 31,248 (exclusive of invalid pensioners). The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year from the inception of

the system and the amount expended each year are shown in the following statement:—

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA, 1901 TO 1923.

Financial Year.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
18th January to 30th June, 1901 (under State Act)	16,275	...	16,275	£ 129,338
1901-2	14,570	...	14,570	292,432
1902-3	12,417	...	12,417	215,973
1903-4	11,609	...	11,609	205,150
1904-5	11,209	...	11,209	200,464
1905-6	10,990	...	10,990	189,127
1906-7	10,732	...	10,732	187,793
1907-8	11,288	...	11,288	233,573
1908-9	12,368	...	12,368	270,827
1909-10 (under Federal Act)	20,218	...	20,218	470,656
1910-11	23,722	2,272	25,994	573,699
1911-12	24,449	3,162	27,611	672,593
1912-13	25,434	3,918	29,352	715,924
1913-14	27,150	4,844	31,994	795,449
1914-15	28,365	6,054	34,419	839,718
1915-16	28,446	6,869	35,315	908,159
1916-17	29,064	7,921	36,985	1,070,386
1917-18	29,159	8,901	38,060	1,168,498
1918-19	29,179	9,337	38,516	1,199,787
1919-20	29,565	10,277	39,842	1,348,100*
1920-21	30,385	11,174	41,559	1,533,430*
1921-22	30,958	11,444	42,402	1,581,898*
1922-23	31,248	11,707	42,955	1,589,362*

* This includes payments of pensions of 2s. per week to inmates of Benevolent Asylums. There were 687 such pensions in force on 30th June, 1923.

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. The number of claims granted in Victoria to 30th June, 1923, was 370,427 and the total of the allowances paid in the State to that date was £1,852,135.

For the year ended 30th June, 1923, the number of claims granted was 36,260, and the amount paid in allowances, £181,300.

The number of war pensions in force in Victoria on 30th June, 1923, was 78,082, and the annual liability of the Commonwealth Government in connexion therewith

War Pensions.

was £2,082,054. Of the total number of pensioners, 24,686 were incapacitated members of the Forces, and 53,396 were dependants of deceased and incapacitated members.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

Lunacy
Department.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1921 and 1922 :—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31st DECEMBER, 1921 AND 1922.

	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1921.	1922.	
In State Hospitals	5,255	5,386	+ 131
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals ..	484	487	+ 3
Boarded Out	103	124	+ 21
In Licensed Houses	76	82	+ 6
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses ..	23	22	- 1
Total Number of Registered Insane ..	5,941	6,101	+ 160
In Receiving Institutions	83	87	+ 4
Total	6,024	6,188	+ 164
Voluntary Boarders	52	50	- 2
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers (not included in other statistics)	112	124	+ 12

The year 1921 showed an increase of 16 in the number of the registered insane over the preceding year, but 1922 has increased the accumulation by no less than 160, the majority, *i.e.*, 131, of the total number, being in the State Hospitals for the Insane. It must, however, be remembered that the population of the State has increased by 39,560, so that the ratio of insane population remains the same as at the end of 1921, *viz.* :—1 in 261. Other cases known to the Department, *i.e.*, patients under observation in receiving houses, voluntary boarders and military mental cases, remain in much the same numbers.

The number of admissions to Hospitals for Insane for each of the years 1918 to 1922 is given below :—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1918	305	356	661	41	60	101	762
1919	353	317	670	31	44	75	745
1920	421	354	775	44	45	89	864
1921	341	335	676	42	84	126	802
1922	388	330	718	46	74	120	838

The voluntary boarders are not included in the above figures. The number of such boarders admitted during the last seven years was as follows :—136 in 1916, 140 in 1917, 163 in 1918, 167 in 1919, 193 in 1920, 198 in 1921, and 176 in 1922.

The year's admissions (838) to the State Hospitals constitutes the third highest return in the records of the Department, one-seventh of them being re-admissions.

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected and reformatory children. There were at the end of 1922 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 depôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1922, numbered 6,168—6,047

neglected and 121 reformatory children—and there were 33 others, free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years :—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1918 TO 1922.

Year.	NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Neglected Children.
	Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed.	In Institutions (including Hospitals)	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1918 ...	9,305	909	493	454	6	11,167
1919 ...	3,989	985	502	472	3	*5,951
1920 ...	4,128	1,021	448	497	...	*6,094
1921 ...	4,281	860	458	498	7	*6,104
1922 ...	4,189	904	434	515	5	*6,047

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.	
1918 ...	110	40	25	5	...	180
1919 ...	114	33	20	13	...	180
1920 ...	86	30	13	3	...	132
1921 ...	78	13	27	4	...	122
1922 ...	65	23	29	3	1	121

* Under the provisions of section 9 of the *Children's Maintenance Act 1919*, 5,392 children, who had previously been committed as "neglected" children and boarded out to their mothers, were discharged as wards of the State, but payments for their maintenance were continued to the mothers. At the end of 1922 there were 7,651 such children.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by **Children boarded out, &c.** honorary committees, who send to the Department reports as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 12s. 6d. per week for children under 18 months, and 8s. per week for those over that age. These rates have been payable since 1st December, 1921. For the previous twelve months the rates were 11s. 6d. per week for children under 12 months, and 8s. per week for those of an

older age. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1922 were as follows :—

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blamable—One Parent—	
Father deserted and mother an invalid	1
“ “ “ dead	28
“ “ “ in hospital	5
“ “ “ poor	281
“ drunkard “ poor	4
“ “ “ dead	4
“ in gaol and mother poor	12
“ “ “ dead	1
“ of doubtful character and mother divorced ..	1
“ unknown and mother dead	31
“ “ “ poor	8
Mother deserted and father dead	3
“ “ “ poor	6
“ drunkard and father dead	5
“ of doubtful character and father poor	2
“ “ “ “ dead	8
Both Parents—	
Father deserted and mother in gaol	2
“ unknown “ deserted	7
“ “ “ of doubtful character	2
“ “ “ in hospital	2
Parents deserted	19
“ of doubtful character	10
“ unknown	8
Total	450
Blameless—Both Parents—	
Father an invalid and mother dead	4
“ “ “ “ poor	17
“ dead and mother poor	88
“ “ “ in asylum	10
“ “ “ in hospital	1
“ in asylum ; mother poor	1
“ “ “ dead	5
“ in hospital ; mother poor	4
“ “ “ dead	5
“ poor and mother dead	18
“ “ “ in asylum	13
Parents poor	106
“ dead	44
Total	316
Total number of children placed under control during the year..	766

CHILDREN'S MAINTENANCE ACT 1919, No. 3001.

A statement of the principal provisions of this Act is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 395 and 396. For the twelve months ended 31st December, 1922, assistance was granted under the Children's Maintenance Act in respect of 2,280 children, and 7,651 children were boarded out to their mothers at the end of the year, an increase of 117 as compared with the number at the end of the previous year, viz., 7,534.

The following statement shows the number of wards of the State and of children boarded out with their mothers for the years 1911 to 1922 inclusive :—

WARDS OF STATE AND CHILDREN BOARDED OUT WITH MOTHERS, 1911 TO 1922.

Year.	Number boarded out to Foster Mothers at end of Year.	Number boarded out with Mothers at end of Year.	Total number boarded out at end of Year.	Total Cost of maintenance of boarded out Children.	Other Wards of State.	Total Wards of State and Children† boarded out with Mothers.
				£		
1911 ..	2,958	2,358	5,316	74,719	1,865	7,181
1912 ..	2,991	2,978	5,969	83,327	1,815	7,784
1913 ..	3,090	3,696	6,786	93,509	1,767	8,553
1914 ..	3,342	4,144	7,486	102,051	1,853	9,339
1915 ..	3,359	4,681	8,040	127,898*	2,136	10,176
1916 ..	3,817	4,984	8,801	140,752	1,979	10,780
1917 ..	3,979	5,151	9,130	147,794	2,013	11,143
1918 ..	3,981	5,324	9,305	153,350	2,042	11,347
1919 ..	3,989	6,206†	10,195	161,044*	2,142	12,337
1920 ..	4,128	6,928†	11,056	210,457*	2,098	13,154
1921 ..	4,281	7,534†	11,815	240,555*	1,945	13,760
1922 ..	4,189	7,651†	11,840	264,257	1,979	13,819

* Payment for children over the age of two years was increased from 5s. to 6s. per week from 1st April, 1915, and from 6s. to 7s. per week from 1st December, 1919. On 1st November, 1920, payment was increased from 10s. to 11s. 6d. per week for children under the age of 12 months, and from 7s. to 8s. per week for all over that age. From 1st December, 1921, the rate of pay for children under the age of 12 months was increased from 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per week, and for those between 12 and 18 months from 8s. to 12s. 6d. per week.

† Not wards of State.

‡ These children were wards of State prior to 1919.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The Governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1922 to £294,295, and that for reformatory school children to £2,038; the expenses of administration amounted to £12,232, making a total gross expenditure of £308,565. A sum of £13,027 was received from parents for maintenance, and of £98 from other sources, making the net expenditure £295,440. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1922, was 6,047; of this total, 4,189 were maintained in foster homes, 185 were in Government receiving depôts, 26 were in private industrial schools, 251 were in other institutions, 434 were at service earning their own living, 51 were in hospitals, 2 were in gaol, and 909 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1922, was 121. Of this number 65 were maintained in private schools, 29 were in service earning their own living, 2 were in hospital, 1 was in gaol, and 24 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children has increased greatly during the past ten years, as is shown by the statement which follows:—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1913 TO 1922.

Year.			Net Expenditure.	Year.			Net Expenditure.
			£				£
1913	..	..	114,264	1918	..	..	171,474
1914	..	..	122,564	1919	..	..	181,385
1915	..	..	149,324	1920	..	..	238,448
1916	..	..	159,929	1921	..	..	282,380
1917	..	..	167,214	1922	..	..	295,440

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1915 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference, if there be sufficient cause, to the control of the Department for Neglected Children. The following return shows the societies and persons registered under the

provisions of this part of the Act, and gives particulars respecting the children under their care during 1922 :—

WORK OF SOCIETIES AND PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER PART VIII. OF THE NEGLECTED CHILDREN'S ACT.

Name of Society or Person.	Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.21.	Admissions during 1922.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.22.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Burwood Boys' Home	38	..	..	42	39
Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society	145	2	7	44	130
Gordon Institute, Melbourne..	86	2	3	20	87
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East	65	6	1	33	72
Methodist Homes for Children	268	4	3	33	263
Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East	4	..	..	..	..
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society	302	14	14	18	309
Presbyterian Rescue Home, Elsternwick	38	2	3	1	37
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	293	..	118	128	303
Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn	51	36	6	20	62
Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society	135	3	4	28	130
Sutherland Home	195	4	6	73	180
Ragged Boys' Home, Latrobe-street, Melbourne	49	1	..	49	70
Church of England Boys' Home, Auburn .. ..	..	6	16	4	42
Total	1,669	80	181	493	1,724

The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies on 31st December, 1922, reached the large total of 17,694, viz., 6,201 (6,168 State wards and 33 incapacitated) under the control of the Neglected Children's Department; 7,651 boarded out with mothers, 1,724 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII of the Neglected Children's Act, 314 in Foundling Hospitals, and 1,804 in Orphan Asylums.

With the view generally of exercising more efficient supervision over unprotected child life, and of lessening the excessive mortality amongst boarded-out children, the State Legislature passed an Act, No. 2102 (which came into force on 31st December, 1907) to amend the Infant Life Protection Act of 1890. These Acts are now incorporated in the Infant Life Protection Act 1915 (No. 2670).

On 31st December, 1922, there were 446 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of this Act. The

deaths during the year numbered 30. In addition, 87 children became wards of the Neglected Children's Department by the operation of section 15, and 4 under section 17 of the Act. One hundred and seventy-four cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Six female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

RELIEF FUNDS.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

**Victorian
Mining
Accident
Relief Fund.**

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine at Creswick caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on this disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives, and a fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances. On 31st December, 1922, there remained five widows, who were receiving 20s. per week each, and at that date the amount at credit was £17,614, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street, Melbourne, £5,607 was in Government inscribed stock and debentures, and £7 was cash in hand.

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND.

**Victorian
Coal Miners'
Accidents
Relief Fund.**

A provision of the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1909* (No. 2240)—now the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1915* (No. 2630)—relates to the constitution of a Fund called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund, to which every person employed in a coal mine is compelled to contribute 4½d. per week, the mine-owners paying an amount equal to one-half of that deducted from the miners' wages, and the Government of Victoria a sum equal to the payment by the owners. The Board held its first meeting on 4th April, 1910, and decided that the employers' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at the collieries (numbering 7 in 1922), their principal functions being to collect contributions and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances.

During 1922 the contributions from employees amounted to £1,593, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £894. For the year ended 31st December, 1922, the total revenue was £3,075—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £749, and interest to £717, and the balance being contributed by the mine-owners (£808) and the Government (£801). The expenditure included £990 paid in allowances in addition to the amounts paid at the mines, and £437 cost of administration. The accumulated funds amounted to £17,497—£8,700 invested in Victorian Government 3½ per cent. inscribed

stock, £8,350 in Commonwealth war loans, and £447 bank balance. Relief was given in 352 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents, there are 18 persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being 16. No fatal accident occurred during the year. There are 10 widows, 2 mothers, and 24 children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities prior to 1922.

WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

**The Watson
Sustentation
Fund.**

The fund was inaugurated as the result of an offer made by the late Mr. J. B. Watson to the Bendigo Miners' Association about the year 1889. Information in relation to its establishment is given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 612. Payments to beneficiaries were first made in 1891 at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made as necessity arose.

The following are the particulars of members of the Fund relieved, &c., and of receipts and expenditure :—From the inception of the Fund in 1891 to the end of 1922 the total expenditure was £37,152, of which £33,323 represented sick pay and £3,141 donations to members and wives and families of deceased members. During 1922, 69 members were relieved and 11 died, and 58 were on the funds at the end of the year. The receipts for the year were £736. Sick pay for 1922 amounted to £785, donations to members and wives and families of deceased members to £13, and expenses of administration to £26; the total expenditure being £824. The balance in hand at the end of the year 1921 was £645, and at the end of 1922, £557.

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund. This fund was inaugurated in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1922-23 was 73, to whom £663 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £134. The accumulated fund on 30th June, 1923, was £15,994. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the Fund for the year 1922-23 (£779) an amount of £329 was received from the trustees of the Walter and Elizabeth Hall Trust for distribution to governesses, nurses, and ladies in similar positions who from age, misfortune, or infirmity were unable to earn their living. A sum of £329 was distributed in this manner, £4 was expended on management, and £19 remained in the bank at the date of balancing.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS.

Patriotic Funds. The *Year-Book* for 1918-19 contains, on pages 391 and 392, a statement of the collections in money and the value of the goods contributed in the State of Victoria to the various Patriotic Funds from the outbreak of hostilities to the 31st December, 1918. The total amount for the State, including contributions received after the last-mentioned date, is estimated to have been well over £4,000,000.

IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR BUREAU.

Immigration Bureau. The Immigration Bureau, which is a branch of the Labour Department, deals with the subject of assisted immigration to Victoria.

On 1st March, 1921, a joint Commonwealth and State Scheme of Immigration came into operation, and from that date the Government of the Commonwealth assumed responsibility for the booking of passages for nominated and other settlers proceeding to Australia, and took over all administrative work in London, including advertising and the medical inspection of prospective settlers.

Approval of nominations is dealt with by the State Authorities, who also indicate the classes and numbers of persons who it is considered may be absorbed in the population without detriment to local artisans and other residents, and for whom it is desired that passages be arranged. To the States is also intrusted the matter of settling on the land or providing employment for new arrivals.

The Government, through this Bureau and in other ways, affords all advice and assistance possible to prospective settlers arriving from overseas, whether desiring to take up land or to obtain employment. In the cases of private purchases of land by new arrivals, valuations on their behalf will, if desired, be made by expert officers free of charge. Nominated passages may be arranged from Great Britain and certain European countries, also under special conditions from Canada and the United States of America. In the case of those not eligible to receive free passages under a scheme inaugurated by the British Government, the Commonwealth Government contributes £11 per adult and proportionately for children towards the fares of approved nominees from Great Britain.

Nomination forms and all particulars as to rates, &c., may be obtained on application to the Officer-in-Charge, Immigration Bureau, Melbourne, with whom nominations should be lodged. Inquiries in Great Britain should be addressed to the Director, Commonwealth Migration and Settlement Office, Australia House, Strand, London.