

CHAPTER VI. EDUCATION.

§ 1. Evolution of Educational Systems in Australia.

1. **Educational Systems of the States.**—As the first settlement in Australia was in New South Wales, it was but natural that Australian Education should have had its beginning in that State, and consequently the mother State has played a leading part in the evolution of educational method and system in Australia. The subject is dealt with in some detail in the first two issues of the Official Year Book, which also contain a more or less detailed account of the origin and development of the educational systems of the other States.

2. **Later Development in State Educational Systems.**—Issues of the Official Year Book up to No. 22 contain an outline of later developments of the educational systems of the various States. The educational systems of the States may now be considered as more or less homogenous entities, the various stages succeeding one another by logical gradation from kindergarten to university.

3. **School Age.**—The statutory school age for children in each State, set out briefly, is as follows:—New South Wales, 6 to 14 years; Victoria, 6 to 14 years; Queensland, 6 to 14 years; South Australia, 6 to 14 years; Western Australia, 6 to 14 years; and Tasmania, 7 to 14 years. In December, 1939, the statutory period was extended in New South Wales by one year to include children at age 6 years.

It is provided in some States that in cases where any child is living outside stated distances from a State school, the age at which the child must commence school is increased. Provision is also made that a scholar having attained a certain standard may leave school before reaching the statutory leaving age.

At the 1936 Conference of Directors of Education a resolution was passed urging the necessity of raising the compulsory school leaving age to 15 years. This resolution was subsequently submitted to a conference in Sydney of Ministers of Education who agreed to recommend to their respective Governments legislation to implement the proposal by the year 1940.

4. **Australian Council for Educational Research.**—This Council, which was constituted on 10th February 1930, is at present financed almost entirely by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The Council consists of nine members, of whom six are elected by State Institutes for Educational Research which have been established in each of the Australian States. One full meeting of the Federal body is held each year. The publications of the Council appear in the form of a Research Series published by the Melbourne University Press. Up to the end of 1939, 58 numbers had appeared. Under the title *Review of Education in Australia* the Council produces a Year Book of Australian education. Since its inception the Council has granted 191 applications for assistance to persons who wish to carry out investigations, or have their works published. The Council also initiates investigations. At the present time for example it is making a survey of the teaching profession in Australia. Authorized expenditure on grants to the end of June, 1939, amounted to £16,499. In addition to organizing and supporting research, the Council acts as a centre for the collection and dissemination of information concerning Australian education. The Council was instrumental in arranging for the survey of Australian libraries conducted for the Carnegie Corporation during 1934 by Messrs. Ralph Munn and E. R. Pitt. As a result of their report there are strong movements in several States to rectify the serious deficiencies revealed in existing library services in Australia. The Council provides technical services and advice to private and to official inquiries. In particular, there has been a demand for the tests of intelligence and of scholastic attainment which have been standardized to meet Australian conditions. During the past twelve months over 150,000 copies have been supplied to schools. The Council is represented on the Conference on Employment of Youth convened by the Commonwealth Government. It is recognized by the

Institute of Intellectual Co-operation, Paris, as the National Centre for Educational Information in Australia, and also acts as the Australian representative of the Institute of International Education, New York. The headquarters of the Council are situated at 147 Collins-street, Melbourne.

§ 2. Census Records.

1. **Persons Receiving Instruction.**—The Census and Statistics Act 1905–1938 specifies "Education" as a subject for inquiry at a Census, but does not indicate the nature or range of the information to be furnished. At earlier Censuses an inquiry regarding the degree of education was restricted to a question as to ability to read and write, but under the system of compulsory education the number of persons in Australia who reach maturity without being able to read and write is very small, and this question was omitted at the 1933 Census. The only question asked concerning those receiving instruction at the time of the 1933 Census was to state the nature of the school they were attending. The tabulation of these details for each of the last three Censuses resulted as follows :—

PERSONS RECEIVING INSTRUCTION AT THE DATE OF THE CENSUS, 1911 TO 1933.

Receiving Instruction at—	Number.			Percentage.		
	1911.	1921.	1933.	1911.	1921.	1933.
Government School ..	593,959	791,724	904,383	76.49	77.36	77.23
Private School ..	156,106	193,774	224,994	20.13	18.93	19.21
University ..	2,465	7,252	8,525	0.32	0.71	0.73
Home ..	23,760	30,712	33,126	3.06	3.00	2.83
Total ..	775,390	1,023,462	1,171,028	100.00	100.00	100.00

2. **Ages of Scholars.**—In the next table the number of scholars at specified ages in 1933 are shown together with the total number of persons recorded for those ages :—

SCHOOLING OF AUSTRALIAN POPULATION (SEXES COMBINED), 30th JUNE, 1933.

Age Last Birthday.	Number Receiving Instruction at—				Number not stated and not at School.	Total.
	Government School.	Private School.	Home.	University.		
4	6,287	3,528	2,916	..	(a) 556,234	(a) 568,965
5	49,051	12,037	3,475	..	60,348	124,911
6	83,816	18,269	3,169	..	17,385	122,639
7	95,811	20,172	3,091	..	7,221	126,295
8	98,769	20,642	2,809	..	5,798	128,018
9	97,616	20,414	2,467	..	5,020	125,517
10	100,676	21,264	2,309	..	5,189	129,438
11	101,047	21,318	2,190	..	4,939	129,494
12	102,087	21,712	2,108	..	5,224	131,131
13	88,375	20,392	2,114	..	9,127	120,008
14	40,868	15,643	1,804	..	56,836	115,151
15	20,149	12,261	1,347	..	86,197	119,954
16	9,784	8,361	869	101	103,265	122,380
17	4,799	4,521	611	494	110,208	120,633
18	2,480	2,087	565	1,224	120,434	126,790
19	1,257	893	403	1,463	121,637	125,653
20 and over ..	1,511	1,480	879	5,243	4,183,749	4,192,862
Total ..	904,383	224,994	33,126	8,525	5,458,811	6,629,839

(a) Including those aged 0 to 3.

3. **Percentage of Persons not Receiving Instruction.**—The compulsory school age in the various States ranges from 6 to 14 years. From the foregoing table it will be seen that the proportion of children aged last birthday from 6 to 13 years receiving instruction was 94.1 per cent. Conversely 5.9 per cent. of the children within the compulsory range were not indicated as receiving instruction at the date of the Census. The corresponding ratio in 1921 was 6.7 per cent.

As the minimum compulsory school age in New South Wales and Tasmania at the date of the Census was 7 years and as exemptions from further attendance for special reasons on attaining age 13 obtain throughout the States, a more reliable estimate of the percentage of children not receiving instruction may be obtained by ignoring the extreme ages of the compulsory range. The elimination of these ages reduces the percentage from 5.9 to 4.3 per cent. Attendance at school was known to be affected by the severe economic conditions prevailing at the time of the Census, and this latter figure was consequently in excess of the corresponding percentage of 3.7 in 1921. The effect of accessibility to schools may be seen in the further reduction of the percentages of these ages not receiving instruction in the metropolitan areas to 3.5 in 1933 and to 2.9 in 1921.

4. **Religions of Scholars.**—The following table shows the class of school at which the young adherents to the principal religious denominations were being educated at the date of the Census:—

**ADHERENTS RECEIVING INSTRUCTION AT DIFFERENT KINDS OF SCHOOLS.
30th JUNE, 1933.**

Denomination.	Government School.	Private School.	University.	Home.	Total Specified.
Baptist	17,473	998	166	304	18,941
Catholic, Roman(a)	84,763	146,197	1,339	6,263	238,562
Church of Christ	10,822	479	86	214	11,601
Church of England	397,717	37,442	3,263	14,612	453,034
Congregational	9,274	1,112	202	224	10,812
Lutheran	8,257	910	45	217	9,429
Methodist	116,365	5,926	1,023	2,723	126,037
Presbyterian	108,870	9,836	1,302	3,814	123,822
No Reply	119,130	18,415	646	3,805	141,996
Other	31,712	3,679	453	950	36,794
Total	904,383	224,994	8,525	33,126	1,171,028

(a) Including Catholic, Undefined.

The most prominent feature of the results given above is the relatively small proportion of Roman Catholics attending State schools. Of the Roman Catholics reported as receiving instruction, 34.66 per cent. were attending State schools compared with 86.84 per cent. for the rest of the community, the proportion for the whole being 77.23 per cent.

§ 3. State Schools.

1. **General.**—The State Schools, or, as they are sometimes termed, the "public" schools, of Australia comprise all schools directly under State control, in contradistinction to the so-called "private" schools, the bulk of which, though privately managed, nevertheless cater for all classes of the community. Separate information regarding Technical Education is given in § 7, but the junior technical schools are included hereunder. The returns include figures relating to correspondence schools as well as subsidized schools, but evening schools and continuation classes, where such are in existence, are not included, but are dealt with separately in par. 3 (iv) hereinafter

2. Returns for Year 1938—(i) *General*. The following table shows the number of State Schools, together with the teachers employed and the number of individual children in attendance during the year 1938 :—

STATE SCHOOLS, 1938.

State or Territory.	Schools.	Teachers Employed.	Teachers in Training.	Net Enrolment.
New South Wales(a)	3,283	11,668	1,476	383,025
Victoria	2,688	8,343	409	234,802
Queensland	1,693	4,261	296	141,505
South Australia	1,061	3,050	274	78,845
Western Australia	836	2,379	152	(b) 61,580
Tasmania	459	1,274	93	34,553
Northern Territory(c)	9	19	..	680
Australia	10,029	30,994	2,700	934,990

(a) Including Australian Capital Territory. (b) Estimated. (c) Year ended 30th June, 1938.

(ii) *Average Enrolment and Attendance*. The methods of calculating enrolment are not identical throughout the States. The unit in South Australia is the daily enrolment while New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania employ the weekly enrolment. In Queensland no average enrolment is compiled, and the mean of the four quarterly gross enrolments is the only figure available.

As with enrolments there is not complete uniformity in arriving at the average attendance, but most of the States aggregate the attendances for the year and divide by the number of school sessions. New South Wales and Western Australia, however, employ averages of term averages. The matter of securing uniformity in these respects has been under consideration for some time, and the Council for Educational Research, already referred to in § 1, par. 4, is devoting attention to the question of securing greater uniformity in methods of collection and presentation of educational data generally. The average enrolment and attendance in each State during 1938 are shown below :—

STATE SCHOOLS: AVERAGE ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1938.

State or Territory.	Average Weekly Enrolment.	Average Daily Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance on Enrolment.
			%
New South Wales	344,243	300,768	87.37
Victoria	219,270	190,275	(a) 87.10
Queensland	136,621	113,842	83.33
South Australia	75,519	69,681	(a) 92.08
Western Australia	59,087	54,284	91.87
Tasmania	31,578	28,359	89.81
Northern Territory(b)	508	460	90.55
Total	866,826	757,669	87.46

(a) Excluding correspondence students. (b) Year ended 30th June, 1938.

The percentage of attendance on enrolment is lowest in Queensland, but this figure is not comparable with those of the other States, as no average enrolment is available for Queensland. The actual attendance in Queensland is in all probability just as high as in the other States, for in a calculation based on comparable mean quarterly enrolments in 1938 the percentage of attendance was slightly higher in Queensland than in New South Wales.

Extraordinary epidemics apart, it would appear from the steadiness of the returns in recent years that the percentage of attendance on enrolment is approaching its

maximum under present conditions in Australia. Recurring epidemics of contagious diseases, minor illnesses, bad weather and long distances are all serious factors limiting the full attendance of pupils at school.

The average attendance at the State Schools in Australia is shown below for the year 1891 and at varying intervals to 1938 :—

STATE SCHOOLS : AVERAGE ATTENDANCE, AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Total Population. (a)	Average Attendance.	Year.	Total Population. (a)	Average Attendance.
1891	3,421	350,773	1934	6,706	792,892
1901	3,825	450,246	1935	6,753	790,186
1911	4,574	463,799	1936	6,807	792,148
1921	5,511	666,498	1937	6,867	761,848
1931	6,553	817,262	1938	6,930	757,669
1933	6,057	805,334			

(a) At 31st December, in thousands.

It is possible, for Census years, to relate with reasonable accuracy the average attendance of scholars at State Schools to the number of children who are approximately of school age. For this purpose the ages 5 to 15 years, both included, have been taken and the average attendance per thousand children was:—1891, 455; 1901, 464; 1911, 477; 1921, 544; and 1933, 585. Although other factors might have affected the results in a minor degree it would appear that considerable improvement has taken place in school attendance during the last twenty years.

(iii) *Schools in the Australian Capital Territory.* During the year 1938 fourteen State Schools were in operation in the Australian Capital Territory. The individual pupils enrolled numbered 1,663 and the average attendance 1,308. Cost of upkeep amounted to £23,103. By arrangement with the Commonwealth Government these schools are conducted by the New South Wales Education Department in the same way as the ordinary State Schools, the Department being recouped for expenditure. Ample provision has been made for both primary and secondary education, and this will be increased to meet requirements. The figures quoted, other than expenditure, do not include enrolment, etc., at the Trade School and the Evening Continuation School. A reference to the Canberra University College will be found in § 6, par. 6.

3. Distribution of Educational Facilities.—(i) In Sparsely-settled Districts.—

(a) *General.* The methods adopted in the various States to carry the benefits of education into the remotest and most sparsely-settled areas are set out in some detail in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, pp. 430-1). (b) *Correspondence Teaching.* Teaching by correspondence has been adopted to meet the needs of children out of reach of the ordinary means of education, including those prevented from attending school through physical ailment. Approximately 19,750 children received instruction in this way during 1938, the respective numbers in each State being: New South Wales, 8,101; Victoria, 1,112; Queensland, 6,000; South Australia, 1,825; Western Australia, 2,157; and Tasmania, 526. In the Northern Territory, 27 children received tuition by correspondence during the year.

(ii) *Centralization of Schools.* The question of centralization of schools adopted so successfully in America and Canada has received some attention in Australia, and particularly in New South Wales. It is recognized that a single adequately staffed and well equipped central institution can give more efficient teaching than a number of small scattered schools in the hands of less highly trained teachers, and the small schools in some districts were therefore closed and the children conveyed to the central institution. The principle was first adopted in New South Wales in 1904, and in 1938 a sum of £22,277 was expended in boarding allowances and conveyance to central schools. Cost of conveyance to State Schools in Victoria during 1938-39 was returned as £18,007. In South Australia the sum of £4,435 was disbursed in connexion with travelling expenses of school children in 1938, while £15,321 was spent in Western Australia during 1937-38, and £11,796 in Tasmania in 1938. (It may be pointed out, however, that the

parents are often reluctant to part with the small schools which form as it were, "heart centres" in their little community, while the kindly help of the teachers is a great asset in the social and intellectual life of the districts served by the schools.)

(iii) *Education of Backward and Defective Children.* This subject was alluded to at some length in preceding issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, pp. 431-2).

(iv) *Evening Schools.* Evening Continuation Schools have been in existence for many years in some of the States, but their progress has been uncertain. The aim of these schools is to provide a means of furthering the education of those who have left school at the termination of the primary course. Practical and cultural subjects are combined in the curriculum to be of assistance to those attending in their occupations and their civic life. In New South Wales the 34 Evening Continuation Schools had an average weekly enrolment in 1938 of 3,303 and an average attendance of 2,541. The schools are divided into three groups, junior technical, domestic science, and commercial. Attendances at the schools for boys numbered 2,012, and at those for girls 529. Unemployed pupils receive free tuition, and all fees are refunded to others with a satisfactory record of attendance. In Western Australia evening continuation classes were held at 23 centres in 1930, with an average enrolment of 2,777 pupils, but the classes were discontinued at the end of that year and preparatory technical classes were substituted wherever there was a technical school in operation.

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

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

4. *Training Colleges.*—The development of the training systems of the various States was referred to at some length in earlier issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, pp. 437-9).

5. *Expenditure.*—(i) *Maintenance—All Schools.* The net expenditure on maintenance in all grades of schools, excepting senior technical schools and in Victoria and Tasmania junior technical schools, and the cost per head of average attendance for the five years ended 1938 are shown in the following table. The figures do not include expenditure on buildings, which is given separately in a subsequent table. In all expenditure tables the figures for Victoria and Western Australia relate to the financial year ending six months later than the stated calendar year.

STATE SCHOOLS: EXPENDITURE ON MAINTENANCE.

Year.	N.S.W. (a)	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Nor. Terr.	Total.
TOTAL (INCLUDING SECONDARY SCHOOLS).								
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1934	3,312,614	2,163,111	1,312,758	666,593	575,340	215,105	3,897	8,249,418
1935	3,523,552	2,335,096	1,235,724	721,275	625,847	250,759	5,594	8,697,847
1936	3,642,321	2,528,177	1,261,461	761,847	674,083	268,579	5,763	9,142,231
1937	3,994,646	2,602,114	1,337,120	786,942	695,584	298,246	6,307	9,720,959
1938	4,525,546	2,621,297	1,458,366	821,935	712,012	307,543	6,307	10,453,006
PER HEAD OF AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.								
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1934	10 13 9	10 11 9	11 11 8	8 14 7	10 15 1	7 6 9	14 5 6	10 9 8
1935	11 6 8	11 10 9	10 18 2	9 12 1	11 18 2	8 12 0	18 2 1	11 2 0
1936	11 14 8	12 12 1	10 13 4	10 6 4	12 14 6	9 4 3	13 3 5	11 12
1937	13 0 1	14 16 6	11 11 11	10 16 5	12 16 5	10 6 2	12 19 0	12 17
1938	15 0 11	14 6 11	12 6 2	11 15 11	13 2 4	11 0 8	13 14 3	13 18

(a) Gross figures, receipts not being available.

Prior to the depression the maximum expenditure on State Schools was £10,087,570 in 1929. Economies were effected during the depression years, but since 1934 the expenditure has risen rapidly to a new high level of £10,453,006 in 1938.

(ii) *Maintenance—Secondary Schools.* The figures given in the preceding table refer to expenditure on maintenance of all State primary and secondary schools, exclusive of technical colleges. It has been thought desirable by the State Education Departments to give separate information in regard to the cost of secondary education. The difficulty of making any satisfactory allocation of the kind, however, will be understood when it is realized that both elementary and higher education are in some instances given in the same school and by the same teacher. Unfortunately, too, the term "secondary" does not indicate the same thing in all States. It might be mentioned here that similar difficulties arise in connexion with the apportionment amongst the various branches of expenditure on administration, inspection and the training of teachers. The figures quoted in regard to cost hereunder have been extracted from the Reports of the State Education Departments, and are subject to the qualifications enumerated above.

STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS : EXPENDITURE ON MAINTENANCE, 1938.

State.	Cost.	Cost Per Head of Population.
	£	s. d.
New South Wales	759,694	5 7
Victoria	436,363	4 8
Queensland	154,995	3 1
South Australia	125,991	4 3
Western Australia	(a) 150,390	6 7
Tasmania	37,031	3 2

(a) Year 1937-38.

The figures in all cases are exclusive of cost of buildings. In the case of Victoria the total includes the expenditure on "intermediate" education amounting (excluding administration costs) to £113,573. For Queensland, the figure quoted does not include the cost of the Agricultural High School and College, which amounted in 1938 to £23,514. For Western Australia the total includes £92,090 on account of "post primary" education.

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

STATE SCHOOLS : EXPENDITURE ON BUILDINGS.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Nor. Terr.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1933	360,194	94,850	213,181	52,697	52,955	9,926	156	783,959
1934	300,999	104,591	285,358	44,120	66,515	24,973	54	826,610
1935	406,662	132,744	347,735	60,656	102,634	53,589	897	1,104,917
1936	377,403	167,428	211,169	69,627	56,191	60,810	726	943,354
1937	467,920	163,532	325,865	76,775	44,344	62,117	786	1,141,339
1938	479,703	170,061	208,750	94,584	72,658	70,962	786	1,097,504

The totals for the various States in 1938 include the following amounts expended from loan and unemployment relief funds :—New South Wales, £187,084 ; Victoria, £78,799 ; Queensland, £135,623 ; South Australia, £59,996 ; Western Australia, £46,011 ; and Tasmania, £58,936.

(iv) *Total.* The net total cost during the year 1938 was as follows :—

STATE SCHOOLS : NET TOTAL COST, 1938.

Item.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Nor. Terr.	Total.
Net cost of education, including buildings ..	£ 5,005,249	£ 2,791,358	£ 1,667,116	£ 916,519	£ 784,670	£ 378,505	£ 7,093	£ 11,550,510

The figures in this and the preceding tables refer to all grades of State Schools (with the exception of senior technical schools and in Victoria and Tasmania junior technical schools). Including buildings, the net cost per scholar in average attendance for the whole of the State Schools in Australia amounted in 1938 to £15 8s. 2d., as compared with £4 9s. 3d. in 1901.

6. *School Banking.*—With the object of inculcating principles of thrift amongst the children, agencies of the Savings Banks have been established at many of the schools throughout the Commonwealth. Particulars for each State at 30th June, 1939, were as follows :—

SCHOOL SAVINGS BANKS AT 30th JUNE, 1939.

State.	Agencies.		Depositors.		Amount on Deposit.	Average for Depositor.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	£	£	s. d.
New South Wales	2,847	193,274	314,717	1 12 7			
Victoria(<i>i</i>)	2,781	200,888	293,229	1 9 2			
Queensland	1,464	66,622	172,243	2 11 8			
South Australia	1,168	80,415	164,895	2 1 0			
Western Australia	772	36,539	92,905	2 10 11			
Tasmania(<i>a</i>)	498	31,950	51,967	1 12 6			
Northern Territory	5	283	687	2 8 7			
Total	9,535	609,971	1,090,703	1 15 9			

(a) Including inoperative accounts.

§ 4. Private Schools.*

1. *Returns for 1938.*—The following table shows the number of private schools, together with the teachers engaged therein, and the enrolment and average attendance in 1938 :—

PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1938.

State or Territory.	Schools.	Teachers.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
New South Wales	746	5,060	100,720	84,726
Victoria	516	2,654	80,161	(a)74,299
Queensland	231	1,591	34,390	29,387
South Australia	162	872	13,218	11,842
Western Australia	146	644	14,320	13,046
Tasmania	64	328	6,523	5,066
Northern Territory(<i>b</i>)	2	9	165	144
Total	1,867	11,158	249,497	218,510

(a) Net enrolment.

(b) Year ended 30th June, 1938.

The Roman Catholic schools comprise the largest group of private schools in Australia. On the basis of the figures available, approximately 200,000 children, or 80 per cent. of the total in private schools, are educated in Roman Catholic schools.

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

The figures for Queensland include the returns from Grammar schools, of which there are eight—five for boys and three for girls, with an enrolment of 1,074 boys and 564 girls. These schools are governed by boards of trustees, partly nominated by the Government, and partly by the subscribers to the funds. The trustees make regulations regarding the fees of scholars, the salaries of teachers, and generally for the management of the schools. The Government endowment received in 1938 amounted to £11,325. In addition, a sum of £10,715 was received by way of fees for the tuition of State scholarship holders. The Grammar schools are inspected annually by officers of the Department of Public Instruction.

In addition to the private schools already mentioned there were 46 privately-conducted schools at orphanages and charitable institutions throughout Australia during 1938, with an enrolment of 3,512 pupils and an average attendance of 3,066. These figures are exclusive of Victoria, for which State particulars are not available.

2. **Growth of Private Schools.**—The enrolment and average attendance at private schools in 1891 and at varying intervals to 1938 were as follows :—

PRIVATE SCHOOLS : ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE.

Year.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Year.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
1891	124,485	99,588	1934	223,538	196,927
1901	148,659	120,742	1935	229,525	200,539
1911	160,794	132,588	1936	234,278	206,026
1921	198,688	164,073	1937	235,815	210,101
1931	221,387	189,665	1938	249,497	218,510

3. **Registration of Private Schools.**—Conditions in regard to the registration of private schools were alluded to in previous Official Year Books (see No. 18, p. 451).

§ 5. Free Kindergartens.

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

FREE KINDERGARTENS, 1939.

State.	No. of Schools.	Average Attendance.	Permanent Instructors.	Student Teachers.	Voluntary Assistants.
New South Wales	16	791	43	67	60
Victoria	30	1,439	83	77	262
Queensland	6	380	9	20	8
South Australia	10	339	18	20	(a)
Western Australia	8	336	20	12	20
Tasmania	2	91	5	1	2
Total	72	3,376	178	197	352

(a) Not available.

The kindergartens in the foregoing table are all in the metropolitan areas of the various States, with the exception of three country centres, two at Geelong and one at Ballarat which are included in the Victorian returns. The average attendance at

these country schools in 1939 was 156 children. In each capital city there is a training college and the number of students in training during 1939 was 67 in Sydney, 77 in Melbourne, 20 in Brisbane, 29 in Adelaide, 12 in Perth, and 1 in Hobart.

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

§ 6. Universities.

1. **Origin and Development.**—A brief account of the origin and development of the Universities in the various States is given in preceding issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, pp. 442-3).

2. **Teachers and Students.**—The following table shows the number of professors and lecturers, and the students in attendance at each of the State Universities during the year 1938 :—

UNIVERSITIES : TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, 1938.

University.	Professors.	Lecturers and Demon- strators.	Students attending Lectures.		
			Matriculated.	Non- matriculated.	Total.
Sydney	52	225	3,097	435	3,532
Melbourne	37	258	(a)	(a)	(b) 3,670
Queensland (Brisbane)	21	100	1,179	226	1,405
Adelaide	19	155	1,329	978	(c) 2,307
Western Australia (Perth)	19	48	843	81	924
Tasmania (Hobart)	9	28	222	66	288

(a) Not available. (b) Exclusive of 261 students at Conservatorium of Music. (c) Exclusive of 233 students at Conservatorium of Music.

The Conservatorium in Sydney, while attached to the Education Department, is not under the control of the University.

3. **University Revenue.**—The revenue of the Universities is derived principally from Government aid, the fees of students, and income from private foundations. The receipts from all sources other than new bequests during the year 1938 are set out in the table below. With the exception of New South Wales, receipts from public examinations are included as University revenue under lecture and examination fees. In South Australia Government grants and income from private foundations include amounts in respect of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute. The returns for Western Australia are exclusive of the private foundations account as these figures are not made available by the University authorities.

UNIVERSITIES : REVENUE, 1938.

University.	Government Grants.	Lecture and Examination Fees.	Income from Private Foundations.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney	103,350	89,465	77,935	13,702	284,452
Melbourne	75,421	108,193	35,183	27,824	246,621
Queensland (Brisbane)	37,352	33,994	24,803	7,007	103,156
Adelaide	66,600	32,317	23,114	19,034	141,065
Western Australia (Perth)(a)	37,500	1,570	1,742	5,532	46,344
Tasmania (Hobart)	15,265	5,245	1,266	3,000	24,776
Total	335,488	270,784	164,043	76,099	846,414

(a) Excludes revenue on account of bequests, endowments, etc., not taken into general account.

The figures in the foregoing table do not include the value of new foundations received during the year which amounted to £5,920 in New South Wales, £136,840 in Victoria, £4,805 in Queensland, £20,431 in South Australia, £1,875 in Western Australia, and £411 in Tasmania.

In preceding issues of the Official Year Book information is given in some detail in regard to the extent to which the Universities have benefited from private munificence. Space will permit of reference to the more important benefactions only.

The endowments to the Sydney University include the Challis Fund, £376,466; the G. H. Bosch Fund, £257,961; the P. N. Russell Fund, £100,758; and the Fisher Estate, £42,613. In addition, the University receives a large annual revenue from the trustees of the McCaughey bequest. Excluding the principal of the latter, the credit balances of the private foundations amounted to £1,178,170 on the 31st December, 1938. In 1930 a sum of £100,000 was received from the Rockefeller Foundation in aid of the building and equipment of a clinical laboratory for the medical school.

Mr. Sidney Myer's gifts to the Melbourne University amounted to £60,000, while Sir Samuel Gillott, Mr. Edward Wilson (Argus Trust), and Sir Samuel Wilson contributed £41,000, £34,000, and £30,000 respectively. The estate of the late Miss Helen Mackie provided £40,000 for the establishment of pre-clinical chairs, while Mr. R. B. Ritchie's gifts for the endowment of a Chair of Economics amounted to £30,000, and a similar sum was received from the Supreme Court Library Fund for the endowment of a Chair of Public Law. Dr. James Stewart founded Scholarships in Anatomy, Medicine and Surgery to the value of £26,000. The Hon. Francis Ormond contributed £20,000 to the University as well as benefactions to Ormond College amounting to considerably over £100,000 and the late Dr. F. Haley left £25,000 for medical research.

Queensland University, to the 29th February, 1940, had received £190,719 from the McCaughey estate, and £35,464 from the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust, while the Hon. T. C. Beirne gave £20,000 in 1935 for the endowment of a chair of Law in Queensland. The permanent site for the University and other land valued at £62,000 were presented by Dr. and Miss Mayne. The chief benefactors to the Adelaide University were Sir Thomas Elder, £100,000; Sir Langdon Bonython, £71,000; Miss M. T. Murray, £45,000; Mr. T. E. Barr Smith, £35,000; Mrs. Jane Marks, £30,000; Edward Neale, £27,000; Mrs. R. F. Mortlock and J. T. Mortlock, £25,000; Family of John Darling, £25,000; R. B. Smith and family, £21,000; and Sir William Mitchell, £20,000. Several valuable properties, in addition to shares which realized £58,450, were also bequeathed to this University by Mr. Peter Waite, the total value of the bequest being estimated at £100,000. Under the will of Sir Winthrop Hackett the University of Western Australia received £425,000, while the late Robert Gladden bequeathed an estate valued at £60,000.

4. University Expenditure.—The principal item of University disbursements consists of salaries. In the following table is given the expenditure incurred during 1938, excluding capital expenditure on buildings:—

UNIVERSITIES : EXPENDITURE, 1938.

University.	Salaries.	Scholarships and Bursaries.	Buildings and Grounds.	Maintenance, Equipment, &c.(b)	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney	200,787	8,349	9,481	56,900	275,517
Melbourne	165,938	7,384	9,946	64,009	247,277
Queensland (Brisbane)	62,441	2,112	502	31,254	96,309
Adelaide	(c) 75,199	1,110	6,688	(c) 60,404	143,401
Western Australia (Perth)(d)	33,206	..	5,950	6,783	45,939
Tasmania (Hobart)	16,891	989	546	6,155	24,581
Total	554,462	19,944	33,113	225,505	833,024

(a) Excluding capital expenditure on new buildings.

(b) Includes expenses of public examinations for all States other than New South Wales.

(c) Includes salaries, £18,422 and maintenance and equipment, £12,854, in respect of the Waite Agricultural Research Institute.

(d) Excludes expenditure on account of bequests, endowments, etc., not taken into General Account.

Capital expenditure on new buildings during 1938 amounted to £280,986 distributed as follows:—New South Wales, £78,038; Victoria, £32,388; Queensland, £89,519; South Australia, £3,841; and Western Australia, £24,316.

5. **University Extension.**—Some account of the initiation and progress of university extension is given in preceding Official Year Books (see No. 22, p. 446).

6. **The Canberra University College.**—The question of the establishment of a University at the Australian Capital is still under consideration, and in the meantime a University College has been established under the Canberra University College Ordinance 1929–1940. By virtue of a temporary regulation of the University of Melbourne, which expires on the 31st December, 1940, the College is empowered to provide approved lectures in the subjects of the Arts, Science, Commerce and Law courses in preparation for certain degrees and diplomas of that University. Lectures commenced in 1930 with the aid of several part-time lecturers, and 30 students were enrolled during the year. In 1938 and 1939 the students numbered 151 and 163 respectively. The staff now consists of three full-time and eighteen part-time lecturers.

7. **The New England University College.**—New England University College is a branch of the University of Sydney. It is situated at Armidale, on the Northern Tablelands of New South Wales. The present main University Building (serving both as a residential College and for lecture rooms and library) stands in 183 acres of land and was given to the University of Sydney by Thomas Richmond Forster, Esq., in 1937. The Government of New South Wales bore the expense of converting it to its present use. Under the direction of the University of Sydney lectures began at the College on 14th March, 1938, in the Faculty of Arts, and on 13th March, 1939 in the Faculty of Science. Students wishing to proceed to degrees in Economics, Medicine, Veterinary Science and Agriculture may take the earlier courses at the College. In 1939 there were 13 lecturers, including one part-time, 63 students taking courses leading to degrees and 22 students attending Extension Board Courses.

8. **Workers' Educational Association.**—In 1913 Workers' Educational Associations were formed in all the States of Australia, and later in New Zealand. The movement has for its object the bringing of the University into closer relationship with the masses of the people, and thereby providing for the higher education of the workers in civic and cultural subjects. There are now direct grants from all State Governments except Western Australia. The particulars of grants for classes in 1939 were as follows:—New South Wales, £5,500, 72 classes, 60 discussion groups and 4 study circles; Victoria, £3,120, 36 tutorial classes, 7 study circles and extension work; Tasmania, £691, 7 classes; South Australia, £2,250, 10 tutorial classes, 14 lecture classes, 5 study circles, 2 discussion groups and extension lectures at country centres; Queensland, £1,650, 17 tutorial classes and 20 discussion groups. In addition, the New South Wales Association receives a Government grant for general organizing purposes of £770, and the Queensland and South Australian Associations received grants of £850 and £240 respectively. The Carnegie Corporation has in recent years shown its interest in the work by allotting substantial grants to the Associations and to the Universities. The principal subjects chosen in all States are Industrial History, Economics, Political Science and Sociology, but there is an increasing number of classes in other subjects such as History, Psychology, Philosophy, Literature, Music, Physiology and Biology. Each University co-operates with the W.E.A. in the formation of a joint committee for tutorial classes, which supervises the work with the assistance of a University officer with the title of Director of Tutorial Classes. In addition to the longer University tutorial classes, many preparatory classes, study circles, and summer schools are organized by the Association, numerous courses of public lectures are delivered, educational conferences promoted, and an extensive book service is spreading educational literature throughout Australia.

§ 7. Technical Education.

1. **General.**—Although provision has been made in all of the States for many forms of technical education, the total expenditure figures still indicate a lack of proportion in comparison with the total educational votes. The rapid expansion of manufacturing

industries in recent years, however, is increasing the demand for technically-trained personnel, and the provision of facilities for such instruction is demanding and will demand greatly increased expenditure.

In preceding issues of the Official Year Book an outline was given of the origin and development of technical education in each State (see No. 22, pp. 447-51), but considerations of space preclude the inclusion of more up-to-date information in later volumes.

2. **Schools, Teachers and Students.**—The number of schools, teachers and enrolments of individual students during 1938 are given in the following table:—

TECHNICAL EDUCATION : SCHOOLS, TEACHERS AND ENROLMENTS, 1938.

State.	Schools or Colleges.	Teachers.			Individual Students Enrolled.	
		Full-time.	Part-time.	Total.	Male.	Female.
New South Wales ..	22	300	753	1,053	22,739	8,126
Victoria(a) ..	28	795	419	1,214	27,258	8,736
Queensland ..	14	341	151	492	9,978	6,410
South Australia ..	17	(b)	(b)	296	6,353	3,257
Western Australia ..	5	36	119	155	3,693	1,689
Tasmania(a) ..	5	40	93	133	1,438	413
Total ..	91	3,343	71,459	28,631

(a) Includes junior enrolments, 7,794 males and 1,341 females in Victoria, and 502 males and 33 females in Tasmania, as teaching staff and expenditure cover both senior and junior sections.

(b) Not available.

The numbers of individual scholars enrolled during the last five years are given below. In order to make the figures comparable enrolments at Junior Technical Schools are omitted from the Victorian and Tasmanian totals.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION : INDIVIDUAL STUDENTS, 1934 TO 1938.

State.	1934.	1935.	1936.	1937.	1938.
New South Wales ..	18,564	19,959	21,364	26,188	30,865
Victoria ..	16,763	20,008	22,345	24,130	26,859
Queensland ..	12,540	13,492	15,189	15,652	16,388
South Australia ..	7,457	8,339	8,654	9,247	9,610
Western Australia ..	4,081	4,542	5,224	5,232	5,382
Tasmania ..	980	1,037	1,073	1,253	1,316
Total ..	60,385	67,377	73,849	81,702	90,420

3. **Expenditure.**—The expenditure on technical education in each State for the year 1938 is shown below:—

TECHNICAL EDUCATION : EXPENDITURE, 1938.

State.	Salaries and maintenance.	Equipment.	Buildings.	Total.	Receipts—Fees, etc.	Net Expenditure.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales ..	234,113	59,931	166,717	476,816	68,532	408,284
Victoria(a) ..	349,545	8,190	96,708	468,739	89,009	..
Queensland ..	72,473	17,840	13,302	103,615	19,181	84,434
South Australia ..	61,059	8,358	24,774	94,448	15,043	79,405
Western Australia ..	25,700	2,031	659	28,390	2,769	25,621
Tasmania(a) ..	22,839	6,357	7,774	38,317	3,242	35,075
Total ..	765,729	102,707	309,934	1,210,325	197,776	..

(a) Includes the expenditure on Junior Technical Schools.

Fees and other receipts are paid into Consolidated Revenue in all States except Victoria, where they are retained and spent by the Technical School Committee. The expenditure on buildings is largely financed from loan moneys; the sums provided from this source in 1938 were:—New South Wales, £146,816; Victoria, £88,534; Queensland, £10,379; South Australia, £24,229; Western Australia, £102; and Tasmania, £7,400.

The expenditure on maintenance for technical education in 1938 amounted to 2s. 7d. per head of the population of Australia, as compared with 30s. 4d. per head expended in maintenance for primary and secondary education.

§ 8. Business Colleges and Shorthand Schools.

There has been a considerable development in recent years both in the number and scope of privately conducted institutions which aim at giving instruction in business methods, shorthand, typewriting, the use of calculating machines, etc. Particulars for all States, so far as they are available, are given in the following table. Owing to the varying methods employed in the States it is not possible to give any comparative figures of enrolment:—

BUSINESS COLLEGES, SHORTHAND SCHOOLS, ETC., 1938.

State.	Schools.	Teachers.	Average Attendance of Students.	
			Males.	Females.
New South Wales	51	315	2,092	4,482
Victoria	13	154	2,538	2,975
Queensland	13	55	195	740
South Australia	15	76	(a) 1,604	(a) 1,848
Western Australia	11	65	(b) 4,423	(b) 1,219
Tasmania	4	21	106	274
Total	117	686	10,958	11,538

(a) Individual students enrolled. (b) Average weekly enrolment; attendance figures not available.

In addition to those shown above for South Australia there were 3,999 males and 56 females receiving instruction from interstate schools by correspondence. Particulars regarding fees received in 1938 are available for Western Australia and Tasmania only, the respective figures being £39,413 and £3,092.

§ 9. Miscellaneous.

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

ROYAL SOCIETIES : PARTICULARS, 1939.(a)

Heading.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Year of origin	1,866	1,854	1,884	1,834	1,913	1,843
Number of members	272	198	209	146	155	255
Vols. of transactions issued	72	81	50	63	25	73
Number of books in library	36,800	18,000	7,000	8,500	4,900	20,000
Societies on exchange list	319	322	220	274	175	283
Income	£ 1,227	567	257	687	237	798
Expenditure	£ 1,137	473	224	565	225	695

(a) The Royal Society of Australia, with headquarters at Canberra, was founded on the 25th July, 1930, and received permission to use its title on the 14th January, 1931. The members, including associates, numbered 99 in 1939. Income and expenditure for the year amounted to £21 and £22 respectively.

(ii) *The Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science.* This Association was founded in 1887. Its headquarters are at Science House, Gloucester-street, Sydney, and meetings are usually held biennially within the various States and in the Dominion of New Zealand. The next meeting was to have been held at Adelaide in August, 1940, but has been postponed indefinitely owing to the war.

(iii) *Other Scientific Societies.* The Linnean Society of New South Wales, with headquarters in Sydney, was founded in 1874. The soundness of its present position is due to the benefactions of Sir William Macleay, who during his lifetime and by his will endowed the Society to the amount of £67,000, which has been increased by judicious investment to over £80,000. The Society maintains a research bacteriologist and offers annually 4 research fellowships in various branches of natural history. Four fellowships were awarded in 1939. The library comprises some 14,000 volumes, valued at about £7,000. Sixty-four volumes of proceedings have been issued, and the Society exchanges with about 240 kindred institutions. The ordinary membership at the end of 1939 was 183.

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

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

2. Libraries.—(i) *Commonwealth—(a) Parliamentary and National Library.* When the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library was created in 1902, it was recognized that at such time as the Australian Capital was established it would be necessary to have available there, for the use of Members, Government Departments and the public, a library sufficient for their requirements, and therefore wider in scope than would be the case with a purely Parliamentary Library. The ideal of a great general library was kept in view, and standard works were systematically acquired. At the same time, the first Library Committee conceived the idea of a National Library for the use and benefit of the people of Australia. The policy was therefore pursued of securing, as far as possible, all works and documents connected with the discovery, settlement and early history of Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

In 1909 a valuable collection of *Australiana*, comprising about 10,000 volumes and 6,500 pamphlets, maps, documents and pictures—the library of Mr. E. A. Petherick—was acquired. In 1912 a provision was included in the Commonwealth Copyright Act requiring the publisher of every book, pamphlet, etc., printed in Australia to supply a copy free to the library. In the same year the publication of the *Historical Records of Australia* was begun, and 34 volumes were issued before publication was temporarily suspended in 1926.

The rapid development of the Australian and National sections of the Library persuaded the Library Committee in 1923 that the title "Commonwealth National Library" should be given to those sections, and that at Canberra a division of the Parliamentary and National collections should be effected, the former to be housed in Parliament House, the latter in a separate building to which the public would be given free access. The erection of the first wing of the permanent National Library building has been completed, and it is designed to meet the requirements of University students and the general public, to whom the privileges of the Library have been extended in respect to borrowing as well as reference. The design for the complete building makes ample provision for the housing of special collections and for the proper display of the valuable records of Australian history which the Library possesses. In 1936 a further development in the scope of the National Library was the establishment of an Historical Film and Speaking Record Section. This is being developed in co-operation with the Department of Commerce and is controlled by a Committee consisting of the Librarian, the Officer-in-Charge of the Cinema and Photographic Branch of the Department of Commerce, and a representative of the Film Industry—Mr. H. Gratton Guinness.

The work of the National Library was also extended in 1936 as the result of a grant of \$7,500 in three annual instalments of \$2,500 from the Carnegie Corporation of New York for the establishment of library and reading facilities to outlying Commonwealth Territories. Collections of books are regularly sent to the Northern Territory, Papua,

New Guinea, Central Australia, Norfolk Island and Nauru. After remaining for a period in one Territory they are sent on to another and are then finally distributed among the Territories for permanent retention so as to help build up a Central Library for each Territory.

The number of volumes in the National and Parliamentary collections—both of which are under the same administration—was, at the end of June, 1939, 147,308 books, the outstanding feature of the National collection being a unique collection of Captain Cook manuscripts, while the Parliamentary section contains an extensive series of official publications of Great Britain, the Dominions, and Foreign countries. The following publications are issued by the Library: Historical Records of Australia—34 volumes, 12s. 6d. per volume; Parliamentary Handbook and record of elections—nine issues, 10s. 6d. per volume; Annual catalogue of Australian publications—three issues, 2s. per volume; Select list of representative works dealing with Australia (reprinted from the Official Year Book)—five issues.

(b) *Patent Office Library.* The free library attached to the Commonwealth Patent Office, Canberra, contains over 53,000 volumes. Patent specifications are received from the principal countries of the world, together with official publications dealing with Patents and Trade Marks. A wide range of technical literature and periodicals is available.

(ii) *States.* In each of the capital cities there is a well-equipped Public Library, the institutions in Melbourne and Sydney especially comparing very favourably with similar institutions elsewhere. The following statement gives the number of volumes in the Public Library of each capital city at the 30th June, 1939:—

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1938-39.

City.	Number of Volumes in—			Total.
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	
Canberra(a)	137,308	10,000	(b)	147,308
Sydney (c)	414,244	(d)	89,521	503,765
Melbourne(e)	478,858	81,048	16,639	576,545
Brisbane	41,317	41,317
Adelaide	196,197	(f)	(g) 9,635	205,832
Perth	154,681	..	(h) 26,996	181,677
Hobart(e)	38,455	(i) 9,745	..	48,200

(a) Includes Parliamentary section. (b) Books are loaned to libraries or students throughout Australia whenever necessary for research work. (c) Including 136,192 volumes in the Mitchell Library. (d) The maintenance and control of the ordinary lending branch of the Public Library at Sydney were transferred in 1908 to the Municipal Council. At 31st December, 1938, the books numbered 47,491. (e) Year ended 31st December, 1938. (f) The Adelaide Circulating Library at 30th June, 1939, contained 89,823 books. (g) Including 4,291 volumes in Children's Branch. (h) Includes 7,027 volumes in the School Libraries Branch. (i) Includes 2,209 volumes in the Children's Branch.

In connexion with the Country Lending Branch of the Sydney Public Library, it may be noted that books are forwarded on loan to State schools, to approved associations, to Schools of Arts and to individual students. During the year 1938-39, about 76,000 books were lent to small State schools, 16,598 to Schools of Arts, 7,078 to branches of the Teachers' Federation and 2,082 to Agricultural Bureaux, while 61,619 reference works were loaned to individual country students.

A special research staff attached to the Public Library gives valuable assistance in making readily available to inquirers the store of information contained in books, etc., which, owing to limitations of space, are not in open access. Approximately 13,116 volumes were added to the library in 1938-39.

The Mitchell Library in Sydney of more than 60,000 volumes and pamphlets, and 300 paintings, principally relating to Australasia, and valued at £100,000, was bequeathed to the trustees of the Public Library in 1907 by Mr. D. S. Mitchell, together with an endowment of £70,000. The testators stipulated that the regulations of the British Museum were to be adopted as far as practicable, hence the library is the resort of specialists. There are now 136,192 volumes in the library in addition to valuable manuscripts, collections of Australian postage and fiscal stamps, and various pictures, coins, etc.

Other important libraries in New South Wales are the Australian Museum, 29,441 volumes; Teachers' Colleges, 52,849; Technical Colleges, 27,588; Public Schools, 583,475; Railways' Institute, 131,624; and the Cooper Library of the New South Wales Public School Teachers' Federation and the library at the Botanic Gardens, each of 10,000 volumes. At the 30th June, 1939, the Parliamentary Library contained 85,406 volumes.

The reading room at the Melbourne Public Library ranks among the finest in the world. It was opened in 1913, and has a diameter of 114 feet, with a similar height and is capable of seating 320 readers at a time, all of whom are under observation from the centre of the room. The Library forwards volumes on loan to Mechanics' Institutes and Free Libraries, and to individual borrowers in the country. During the year 1938 the volumes added to the reference branch by purchase, donation, etc., numbered 9,276, while additions to the lending branch numbered 3,795.

For some years past efforts have been made in South Australia to collect original documents likely to be of service in compiling a history of the State. So far back as 1914, Professor Henderson, of Adelaide University, under commission from the South Australian Government, visited and reported on the system of keeping archives in England, France, Belgium, Holland and Ceylon, and obtained valuable information also from the United States of America and Canada. A department of historical documents has been created under the care of an archivist, and valuable work has been done in connexion with examination, classification and permanent preservation of the valuable papers. A suitable building for housing the documents and the staff was provided in 1921. At the 30th June, 1939, the collection numbered 309,642 documents, 17,138 views and 1,389 maps.

For the year ended 30th June, 1939, accessions to the Public Library at Perth numbered 3,077 volumes.

During 1922 the Tasmanian Public Library adopted the plan of lending books to individual country borrowers and to families or committees of residents in country districts. The Public Library at Launceston contains 45,000 volumes. Books added to the Public Libraries at Hobart and Launceston during the year 1938 numbered 1,915 and 1,208 respectively.

Statistics in regard to other libraries are not available for all States, while the information supplied is not in all cases complete. Returns for Victoria in 1938 showed a total of about 420 libraries in receipt of State or municipal aid, but apart from the Melbourne Public Library statistics are now only collected from 25 institutions in Greater Melbourne and 44 in the chief extra metropolitan towns. These libraries contained approximately 480,000 volumes. Queensland returned a total of 211 libraries with 574,341 books in 1937-38 although libraries other than the State Public Library do not receive Government aid. Although 272 suburban and country institutions were recorded in South Australia during 1938 statistics were collected from only 247 which returned 698,635 volumes, while in Tasmania 87,000 volumes were distributed between 28 libraries other than the Hobart and Launceston public institutions.

(iii) *University Libraries.* The libraries of the Australian universities perform two important functions in Australian life and development; they provide material not only for the education of graduates and undergraduates, but for scholars, research workers and practical investigators all over the continent, since no genuine student is refused access to them. Much of the material they contain is not available elsewhere, for although in most cases smaller, they are in many directions more highly specialized

than the public libraries, whose resources they are thus able to supplement. They lend to one another and to State and private institutions as well as to individual investigators, and they both lend to and borrow from the public and scientific libraries. Each of them is governed by a librarian, who is responsible as a rule to an executive sub-committee and a committee which is practically co-extensive with the professorial staff. In size the Library of the University of Sydney is the third in Australia, and the Libraries of the Universities of Adelaide and Melbourne are respectively seventh and eighth. The following table shows the sizes and rates of growth of the Australian university libraries; it is impossible to give borrowing statistics, as they differ too widely to be comparable without much explanation:—

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, 1939.

University.	Number of Volumes.	Yearly Accessions.	Number of Current Periodicals.
Sydney	254,200	7,900	3,168
Melbourne	112,000	4,660	1,350
Queensland(a)	48,631	2,801	900
Adelaide	122,450	6,750	2,100
Western Australia	59,978	5,418	470
Tasmania	40,849	1,149	250

(a) 1938 figures. This library is in process of reorganization.

The first books were bought for the Library of the University of Sydney as early as 1851; only since 1910, however, has it possessed a building of its own. It is named after its principal benefactor, Thomas Fisher, who bequeathed to it in 1885 the sum of £30,000. It contains an up-to-date bookstack of glass and steel, but the design of the otherwise fine reading room is such as to make it difficult to install a satisfactory system of shelving; the Library is therefore conducted on the closed access system. Undergraduates, however, as well as graduates and members of the teaching staff, are encouraged to borrow freely. The Library possesses a large number of periodicals, especially scientific, valuable collections of seventeenth century pamphlets and Elizabethan translations from the classics, and an extensive collection of Australian literature. Besides a medical branch, there are a number of departmental libraries.

Early in 1854 the Council of the University of Melbourne made its first allocation for books, but the Library was housed in temporary and unsatisfactory quarters for a number of years, and consequently growth was slow and complaints frequent. In recent years the University authorities have treated the Library generously, and there have been some welcome benefactions, but accommodation is insufficient and a new library building is one of the most pressing needs of the University. All the books are accessible on open shelves, and though the Library is intended primarily for reference purposes, borrowing, except of text-books and certain valuable volumes, is made as easy as possible. The Library is administered from the centrally situated general library; there is a large medical branch library specially rich in periodicals, and smaller branch libraries are accommodated in some of the science departments.

The Library of the University of Queensland began 27 years ago with £3,000 worth of books, £2,000 having been raised by public subscription and £1,000 granted by the Government. At present it shares a building with a science department. There are several departmental libraries.

The Adelaide University Library bears the name of its original benefactor, Robert Barr Smith, who, with members of his family in and after 1892, gave the University about £50,000 for library purposes. Some 20,000 volumes are shelved in the reading room, and available to the ordinary student. Up-to-date steel bookstacks provide accommodation for about 100,000 volumes, and additions now planned will be capable

of housing a further 500,000. Borrowing facilities are available to all matriculated students, to country students and to graduates. There are medical and law departmental libraries. The medical library has on permanent loan the collection of the Institute of Medical and Veterinary Science, and also incorporates the library of the British Medical Association (South Australian Branch).

In the University of Western Australia the first permanent library staff was not appointed until 1927. A special feature is the use made of student co-operation. The whole collection is accessible on open shelves, and there are several departmental libraries.

The Library of the University of Tasmania was founded in 1893, but for many years it comprised little more than a collection of text-books. In 1913 a substantial increase of funds was allotted and important gifts received. In 1919 it was organized for the first time in accordance with modern library practice. Its growth has been steady since 1925.

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

4. State Expenditure on Education, Science and Art.—The expenditure in each State on education, science and art during the year 1938-39 is given in the following table. Owing to the details not being available in all States the figures are exclusive of officers' pensions and interest and sinking fund on capital expended on buildings. The cost of the medical inspection of school children is also excluded, as this service is more appropriately classified under Public Health, etc. :-

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ART, 1938-39.

State	Expenditure from—				Receipts.	Net Expenditure.
	Revenue.	Loan.	Other Funds.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	5,438,425	439,081	..	5,877,506	132,353	5,745,153
Victoria ..	3,124,833	155,174	15,521	3,295,528 ^a	56,946	3,238,582
Queensland ..	1,846,663	188,349	135,140 ^b	2,170,152	25,994	2,144,158
South Australia ..	1,100,993	84,135	..	1,185,128	38,135	1,146,993
Western Australia	862,694	48,266	..	910,960	30,446	880,514
Tasmania ..	390,599	60,367	..	450,966	418	450,548
Total ..	12,764,207	975,372	150,661	13,890,240	284,292	13,605,948

(a) In addition fees in respect of technical education amounting to £80,000 were received and spent by the School Councils. (b) Mainly from Unemployment Relief Tax Fund.