

VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK

1937-38

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Victorian Year-Book

1937-38

By

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GOVERNMENT STATIST

FIFTY-EIGHTH ISSUE

Registered at the General Post Office, Melbourne, for
transmission through the post as a book. Wholly set
up and printed in Australia

24TH JULY, 1939

By Authority :
T. Rider, Government Printer, Melbourne

[3s. 6d.]

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P R E F A C E.

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

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

The first part contains a reference to the Constitution, an epitome of Acts passed by the State Parliament in the year 1937 (from 19th October to 31st December), and lists of members of Parliament. Parts V., VII., and IX. deal with the wealth and progress of the community, as indicated by increases in bank deposits, in amounts assured with life offices, the growth of the population and the increase in volume of trade, &c. In Parts VIII. and IV. details are given of the revenue and expenditure of the Government, of Local Government, Semi-Governmental and other Authorities. Parts II., III., and VI. contain statistics relating to law, crime, births, marriages and deaths, education, charitable institutions, and other cognate subjects. In Part X. a detailed account is given of the agricultural, dairying, pastoral, mineral, manufacturing, and other productions of the State. The various parts were issued as soon as completed. The information in all parts has been brought up to the latest possible date, on many subjects to the middle of the year 1938, and in a few instances to a later date.

The new matter appearing in this volume includes :—

- (1) An article on "Insects of Victoria" Part I. (Ants), by Mr. J. Clark, Entomologist, National Museum of Victoria ;
- (2) An article on the Office of the Agent-General for Victoria ;
- (3) Particulars of public reserves, &c., in each municipality comprising Greater Melbourne ;
- (4) Information on housing and slum reclamation ;
- (5) Particulars of special hospitals in Victoria ;

- (6) An article on National Insurance;
- (7) Details of Cremation in Victoria;
- (8) Details of the oil search in Victoria;
- (9) Notes on the occurrence and production of tin in Victoria;
- (10) An article on "Bulk handling of wheat in Victoria";
- (11) An article on "The Cultivation of Beet Sugar in Victoria."

Although the publication of the Statistical Register has been discontinued since the year 1916, its annual compilation has been continued and it is therefore possible to supply much statistical information in greater detail than appears in this *Year-Book*.

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

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

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

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

O. GAWLER,
Government Statist.

Office of the Government Statist,
Melbourne, 24th July, 1939.

