

A seventh Commonwealth Factory was established at Caulfield, Victoria, for the manufacture of artificial limbs.

2. *Expenditure.*—The value up to 30th June, 1918, of land, machinery and plant, factory fittings and furniture in connection with the factories now in operation was approximately as follows :—

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----------|
| Small Arms Factory | .. | .. | .. | £225,478 |
| Cordite Factory | .. | .. | .. | 153,345 |
| Clothing Factory | .. | .. | .. | 23,888 |
| Harness Factory | .. | .. | .. | 15,202 |
| Woollen Cloth Factory | .. | .. | .. | 160,959 |
| Acetate of Lime Factory | .. | .. | .. | 76,484 |

3. *Remount Depot.*—The Act of 1910 authorised the establishment and maintenance of horse depots, farms, and stations for the breeding of horses. Up to the present nearly 2,000 remounts have been purchased. They are primarily to supply the requirements of the Field Artillery Batteries, but are also available for the use of other mounted units. Remount depots have been purchased or are leased in each of the military districts, and veterinary hospitals have also been established in the larger States. In Victoria and South Australia stables have been built. A remount section of the Army Service Corps has been formed for the purpose of breaking, training and looking after remounts generally. These sections were so organised as to be capable of rapid expansion in case of emergency, and when war was declared in 1914 little difficulty was experienced by the Remount Service in coping with the enormous task of obtaining and training horses for the mounted units of the A.I.F. and in providing for the shipment of horses to Egypt and India as required.

§ 5. Australian Contingents.

1. *New Zealand and Sudan Campaigns.*—Many residents of New Zealand served with the Imperial forces in the New Zealand war. Fuller particulars will be found in Official Year Book No. 6, p. 1071. In 1885 a field battery, an infantry battalion, and an ambulance corps, numbering in all 770, with 218 horses, left New South Wales to take part in the Suakin campaign.

2. *South African War.*—In 1899 the outbreak of war with the Boers led to the several States of Australia offering contingents. This service was continued when, on 1st March, 1901, the control of the defence forces passed over to the Commonwealth. Besides the troops officially organised, many Australians served as members of units raised in Great Britain and South Africa. The following table shews the strength of the military contingents sent at various times from Australia to South Africa :—

STRENGTH OF MILITARY CONTINGENTS SENT FROM AUSTRALIA TO SOUTH AFRICA.

| State. | State Troops at State Expense. | | | State Troops at Imperial Expense. | | | Commonwealth Troops. | | | Grand Total. | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------|----------------------|--------------|---------|--------------|--------------|---------|
| | Officers. | Other Ranks. | Horses. | Officers. | Other Ranks. | Horses. | Officers. | Other Ranks. | Horses. | Officers. | Other Ranks. | Horses. |
| New South Wales | 160 | 3,217 | 3,135 | 76 | 1,308 | 1,443 | 78 | 1,271 | 1,294 | 314 | 5,796 | 5,872 |
| Victoria | 47 | 751 | 830 | 77 | 1,569 | 1,877 | 69 | 1,052 | 1,118 | 193 | 3,372 | 3,825 |
| Queensland | 39 | 694 | 868 | 73 | 1,346 | 1,603 | 37 | 699 | 736 | 149 | 2,739 | 3,207 |
| South Australia | 20 | 326 | 258 | 46 | 644 | 696 | 23 | 467 | 490 | 89 | 1,437 | 1,444 |
| Western Australia | 18 | 331 | 269 | 34 | 540 | 608 | 15 | 291 | 306 | 67 | 1,162 | 1,183 |
| Tasmania | 6 | 173 | 58 | 17 | 358 | 422 | 13 | 290 | 303 | 36 | 821 | 783 |
| Total | 290 | 5,492 | 5,418 | 323 | 5,765 | 6,649 | 235 | 4,070 | 4,247 | 848 | 15,327 | 16,314 |

There were, in addition, several special service officers attached, at the request of the colonial Governments, to the British forces; these officers served with the Imperial troops with a view to aiding the development of the Commonwealth forces, particularly in regard to the routine and administration of troops on service.

3. *The China War, 1900.*—The Home Government also accepted the offer of contingents from Australia on the outbreak of the Boxer rebellion in China. Naval volunteers were furnished by New South Wales and Victoria, and South Australia equipped a gunboat for the Imperial service. The strength of the New South Wales contingent was 260, and that of the Victorian 200, of all ranks.

4. *The European War, 1914.*—Upon the imminence of war between Great Britain and Germany, but prior to its actual outbreak, viz., on 3rd August, 1914, the Commonwealth Government notified Great Britain of its readiness, in the event of war, to place the vessels of the Australian Navy under the control of the British Admiralty when desired, and to despatch an expeditionary force of 20,000 men of any suggested composition to any destination desired by the Home Government, cost of despatch and maintenance to be borne by the Commonwealth. On 10th August, war having meanwhile been declared on the 4th August, all vessels and all officers and seamen of the Royal Australian Naval Forces were transferred to the King's Naval Forces for the period of the war. Upon the suggestion of the Imperial authorities it was decided that the composition of the expeditionary force of 20,000 should be a division, on the basis of the Imperial Army (of staff, three brigades, and divisional troops, but without howitzer brigade and heavy battery), and one light-horse brigade. After this force had been raised, the Commonwealth notified the Home Government that a further body of troops, comprising lines of communication units, supply units, and hospitals (about 2,000), first reinforcements (about 3,000), two additional light-horse brigades (about 4,000), an additional infantry brigade (about 4,500), and certain veterinary units, would be despatched. The first convoy left the rendezvous in Australian waters on 1st November, and landed in Egypt on 5th December, for the defence of that country—which was shortly afterwards proclaimed a British protectorate—and to undergo war training in the vicinity of Cairo. The second convoy left Australia late in December. After the departure of the second convoy, the system of despatching troops in convoys was discontinued. Troops continued to be sent overseas until the termination of the war. An expeditionary force was despatched to German possessions in the Pacific, and other units to various places in the war zone.

(i) *Australian Imperial Force.* Up to 31st December, 1918, the troops despatched from Australia for active service numbered 329,682. These were organised chiefly into the undermentioned units, some of which have since been disbanded or absorbed into other units:—

(a) *Army Corps Troops*—

2 Army Corps Mounted Regiments.
 2 Corps Cyclist Battalions.
 3 Army Field Artillery Brigades.
 Army Field Artillery Signal Sub-sections.
 Army Corps Engineers.
 Army Corps Wireless Telegraph Section Engineers.
 Entrenching Battalion.
 Topographical Section.
 Provost Corps.

(b) *Mounted Division*—

5 Light Horse Brigades (15 Regiments).
 5 Machine Gun Squadrons.
 Field Squadron Engineers.
 2 Field Troops
 Signal Squadron "
 5 Signal Troops "
 Mounted Divisional Train (A.S.C.).
 2 Depot Units of Supply.
 5 Mobile Veterinary Sections.

(c) 5 Divisions—

15 Infantry Brigades (60 Battalions).
 5 Pioneer Battalions.
 5 Machine Gun Battalions (20 Companies).
 10 Field Artillery Brigades (40 Batteries).
 5 Divisional Ammunition Columns.
 35 Trench Mortar Batteries.
 15 Field Companies Engineers.
 5 Divisional Signal Companies Engineers.
 Wireless Signal Sections Engineers.
 5 Divisional Trains, 20 Companies (A.S.C.).
 5 Field Bakeries.
 5 Field Butcheries.
 25 Depot Units of Supply.
 Motor Ambulance Workshop.
 5 Mobile Veterinary Sections.
 15 Field Ambulances.
 5 Sanitary Sections.
 5 Infantry Base Depôts.

(d) Miscellaneous Units—

Siege Artillery Brigade (2 Batteries).
 4 Service Flying Squadrons.
 4 Training Flying Squadrons.
 Aeroplane Squadron ($\frac{1}{3}$ Flight) for service in Mesopotamia.
 Mining Corps (3 Companies).
 3 Tunnelling Companies.
 Electrical and Mechanical Mining and Boring Company.
 Naval Bridging Train.
 Divisional Ammunition Park.
 5 Divisional Supply Columns (Mechanical Transport).
 Reserve Park.
 Armoured Motor Car Section.
 Railway Supply Detachment.
 3 Light Railway Operating Companies.
 3 Broad-gauge Railway Operating Companies.
 2 Remount Units.
 Remount Section.
 2 Veterinary Sections.
 Veterinary Hospital.
 Wireless Signal Squadron Engineers for service in Mesopotamia.
 3 Battalions Imperial Camel Corps (12 Companies).
 Camel Brigade Field Ambulance.
 Cavalry Divisional Signal Squadron Engineers for service in Mesopotamia.
 4 General Hospitals.
 3 Casualty Clearing Stations.
 3 Auxiliary Hospitals.
 2 Stationary Hospitals.
 Dermatological Hospital.
 Salvage Corps.
 Army Ordnance Corps.
 Army Ordnance Corps (I.O.M. Section).
 2 Hospital Ships.
 Dental Services.
 Nursing Services.
 Other Administrative, Training and Departmental Units.
 Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (for service in New Guinea).

Troops in Training.—In addition to the above units, on the 11th November, 1918, the date of signing of the armistice, 7,442 troops were in training throughout Australia in preparation for despatch to the front.

Reinforcements.—Reinforcements were despatched monthly for all units of the A.I.F., and from time to time as required for the troops serving in Mesopotamia and German New Guinea.

(ii) *The Dardanelles, France, and Flanders.* Towards the end of April, 1915, a body of Australian troops left Egypt for the Dardanelles, and on the 25th April came under fire. Acting in conjunction with British, Indian, and French troops, and under the command of General Sir Ian Hamilton, who, as Inspector-General of Oversea Forces, had visited Australia shortly before the outbreak of war (see Official Year Book No. 7, p. 1067), they attacked the positions on Gallipoli Peninsula (Dardanelles). The operation was regarded as formidable, but the allied troops effected a landing in the face of determined resistance. Towards the end of 1915, it was decided to evacuate the Gallipoli Peninsula, which difficult operation was successfully carried out, so far as the Australian troops were concerned, on the 20th December, 1915.

The Australian troops from the Dardanelles, after a brief rest in Egypt, were used for the defence of Egypt and the Suez Canal, taking up a line of trenches in Sinai desert, about ten miles east of the Canal, and roughly parallel with it. Other divisions were formed in Egypt from the troops who had been despatched as monthly reinforcements for the Gallipoli Campaign, but who, when the withdrawal had been decided upon, were massed at Tel-el-Kebir. The 1st and 2nd divisions were consolidated and reorganised, and the 4th and 5th divisions were organised and trained. In April and the following months, these four divisions were transferred to France, leaving the Light Horse (except two regiments who were joined with the infantry divisions to act as divisional cavalry) in Egypt. A further division, the 3rd, raised in Australia and trained in England, moved over to France towards the end of 1916.

For the first few weeks on the Western front, the Australians were in a quiet sector, about Armentières, Laventie, Wytschaete, and Messines. In July, 1916, an engagement at Fleurbaix proved costly to one of the divisions, but it prevented the German reserves from going south to the Somme, where British and French troops attacked the enemy with the object of easing the pressure of the German onslaught on Verdun. Pozières and the Thiepval Ridge fell to the Australians, strenuous counter-attacks proving futile. Mouquet Farm, on the ridge, changed hands repeatedly at short intervals, but was ultimately held by Australian troops, though only after a heavy toll in lives had been taken. After continuous fighting, the position was consolidated, and by the end of August was definitely won. After a short rest in the vicinity of Ypres, October found four divisions of the Australian army again on the Somme, where they remained through the winter months.

In March, 1917, Australian troops attacked to the north of the Somme, pushing back the enemy, and capturing Bapaume and Peronne. The Germans fell back on the Hindenburg line, where they were attacked in exceptionally strong positions near Lagnicourt in April.

In the assault on the Bullecourt-Quéant redoubt—a most important junction-point in the German line—the Australians were subjected to intense artillery fire and a succession of rapid and determined counter-attacks, notwithstanding which, Bullecourt was taken, though a week elapsed from the time the first troops fought their way in until the occupation was completed. The position was held, despite the most strenuous efforts of the Germans to retake it.

Meanwhile the Tunnelling Corps had, in months of laborious work on the Flanders front, mined the Messines Ridge and Hill 60. All was ready by June, and a tremendous explosion which blew the Hill out of existence, was followed by an attack of the 3rd division, in which the high ground around Wytschaete and Messines was taken. Some guns were also captured in the vicinity of Bethlehem Farm.

In September great activity was again shown on the Ypres front. Polygon Wood fell to a desperate onslaught, unrelieved by no less desperate enemy counter-attacks. Within a few days, Zonnebeke was also taken.

In the attack on Passchendaele Ridge in October, nearly 100,000 Australian troops were engaged. At a heavy sacrifice, these troops overcame all difficulties, and pushed

the opposing troops back over a wide area. The rapid approach of winter conditions prevented for a time any further fighting of importance.

Towards the end of March, 1918, the Germans advanced to a heavy attack, which, developing along a wide front, was concentrating about Amiens, in the hope of opening thereby a way to Paris. As the result of a brilliant action at Villers-Bretonneux, the Australians were named the Saviours of Amiens. There followed a series of small battles on the Ancre-Somme front, and in the vicinity of Amiens.

In July, Hamel front was won, the action being notable as that in which Americans were first associated with Australian troops. On 8th August, a smashing blow was delivered over a wide area which broke the enemy defence. All the five Australian divisions were in the line. Within a few days the position on the Somme was turned, and the enemy was thoroughly beaten. The Australian troops were given a short rest, and were again re-entering the line, when the news was received that the Armistice had been signed.

(iii) *Other Land Operations.* The Light Horse, which had remained in Egypt when the Australian infantry left for France, were reinforced by fresh arrivals from Australia, and organised into mounted divisions. Other reinforcements, together with some Yeomanry and New Zealanders, were organised into a Camel Corps. These troops became known as the Anzac Mounted Division, and formed the larger portion of the Desert Column of mounted troops. The Signal Service of this army was furnished by an Australian Signal Squadron.

In the Canal region, activity was shown by enemy forces at the beginning of 1916. After a futile attempt on the Canal early in February, 1916, Turkish troops were defeated at Jiff Jaffa in April. In June, Arabia revolted from Turkish suzerainty. At Romani, in the following August, a Turkish defeat was followed by rout.

Meanwhile the desert railway eastward from the Canal was being rapidly constructed, from its western base at El Kantara. The capture of El Arish and Magdhaba in December was followed by the battle of Rafa in January, 1917, where the Desert Column inflicted severe loss on the harassed enemy, and by clearing the Sinai desert of regular enemy troops, opened the way into Syria.

Strong Turkish positions were prepared about Gaza and Beersheba. In March and April, British attacks on these positions failed. A period of comparative inaction followed during the hot season. Here, as on the Western front, the Australians took part in a succession of dashing raids. In November, a great victory was scored in the third attack on Gaza. The occupation of Jaffa and Ramleh followed; Jerusalem surrendered on 10th December. By Christmas, Southern Palestine was almost clear of the enemy.

Early in 1918 the Australians dashed into Jericho. Thereafter for some months, the advance was slow, but steady. In September the plain of Sharon was crossed, and the Light Horsemen greatly harassed the retreating enemy. Nazareth, Samaria, and Jenin fell in rapid succession. The Upper Jordan was crossed. Damascus was encompassed, and capitulated. The loss of Aleppo a few days before the cessation of hostilities, threatened the Turkish line of communications with Mesopotamia.

The Senussi, a tribe inhabiting the western frontiers of Egypt, had, through Turco-German intrigues, shewn open disaffection since the commencement of hostilities. On Christmas Day, 1915 (almost co-temporaneous with the evacuation of Gallipoli), the tribesmen were brought to a stand and totally defeated by a desert column in which was a large proportion of Australian horsemen. Further trouble developed in the following year, and in the battle of Matruh a large force of Arabs was defeated. A fresh revolt was crushed by the victory over the troops of the Sultan of Darfur at Fashen. After a period of inaction, the revolt was finally crushed in November, 1916.

Late in October, 1917, bodies of Australian troops were diverted to aid the Italians in their defence against the great Austro-German advance which began on the north-east Italian border.

In various theatres of war, Australian *personnel* was engaged on special duties, or on lines of communication. A Divisional Supply Park left Australia in 1915, and was on service in France before the Australian Infantry arrived there in April, 1916. In the

same year, the Siege Artillery left for England, whence, training being completed, the unit crossed to France to work in conjunction with the Allied forces. Flying squadrons and wireless units served in Mesopotamia. A corps was recruited from men whose daily work is in the mines.

Flying units also undertook independent action in Egypt, Palestine, and other places. On the European Western front, much use was made of this new arm. The provision of medical units, in addition to the three Field Ambulances that form an integral part of a division, was made possible by the large numbers of the medical and nursing professions who offered for service. Hospital ships, and general, auxiliary, stationary and casualty clearing hospitals were established and maintained in Egypt, the Mediterranean, Great Britain, and France. Upon special request of the Imperial authorities, a number of Australian medical men served with the Imperial Army, and a number of trained nurses with the Salonika force. Other localities where medical and nursing work has been accomplished by Australians were New Guinea, Mesopotamia, India, the Persian Gulf, East Africa, and Vladivostock.

The number of casualties announced by the Defence Department to 31st December, 1918, was as follows:—

CASUALTIES IN AUSTRALIAN IMPERIAL FORCE TO 31st DECEMBER, 1918.

| | | | | | | All Ranks. |
|-------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|------------|
| Deaths from wounds or disease | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | *58,961 |
| Missing and prisoners of war | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | *4,098 |
| Casualties from wounds or gas | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 166,311 |
| Sick | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 87,865 |
| Casualties not specified | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | *218 |
| Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 317,953 |

The figures marked * represent actual net totals after all corrections consequent upon erroneous and later advice, etc., have been taken into account. The wounded and sick represent totals reported by cable and are in excess of the actual number of men affected, because many are admitted to hospital more than once.

(iv) *The Expeditionary Force in the Pacific.* Upon the suggestion of the Imperial Government, the Commonwealth also despatched an expeditionary force against certain German possessions in the Pacific Ocean. The force contained both naval and military details, and consisted of six companies of the Royal Australian Naval Reserve, one battalion (eight companies) of infantry, two sections of machine guns, a signalling section, and army medical details.

The main objects of the expedition were to seize German wireless stations in the Pacific, to occupy German territory and hoist the British flag, and to arrange for temporary administration.

A complete self-contained force of the above-named units, fully armed and equipped, left Sydney on 19th August, 1914, under escort of vessels of the Royal Australian Navy.

The Naval Board, besides distributing the orders and instructions of the Admiralty, under whose control the Royal Australian Navy was placed, arranged for the supply of coal, oil, stores, munitions, etc., and for the dissemination of intelligence. The task of the Australian Navy was of a three-fold nature: (a) to police the seas and ensure that they should be uninterruptedly free to commerce; (b) to co-operate in ridding the seas of the enemy's cruisers and in destroying his bases and sources of supply; (c) to assist in conveying the expeditionary forces to Europe and to the German Pacific possessions.

The operations against the German colonial troops resulted, within two months, in the capture of the whole of the enemy's possessions in the Pacific. The German Pacific wireless chain was broken. Several of her ships were captured. Samoa was occupied by a force from New Zealand. The German Pacific Protectorate (*Das Deutsches Südsee Schutzgebiet*) was terminated. It comprised German New Guinea, the Bismarck Archipelago, the two northernmost islands of the Solomon group (Bougainville and Buka), the choicest island of the Samoan group (now occupied by New Zealand), the Marshall Islands, the Carolines, Pelew, and the Ladrões (except Guam, which belongs to America). Of these groups, the Bismarck Archipelago is the most important. It includes New Britain, New Ireland, New Hanover, and several small islands—the Admiralty, Natty, Exchequer, Hermit, Anchorite, French, Gervit Denys, Sir Charles Hardy, St. John, St. Mathias, Squally Islands, and others.

(v) *The Australian Navy in the War.* While in peace time the Australian Navy is under the sole control of the Commonwealth Government (subject to the maintenance of a general uniformity of training and discipline, which allows interchangeability of officers and men between the British and Australian naval forces), it has been understood from the outset that in time of war the Commonwealth Government would place its Navy at the disposal of the Imperial Authorities, and that thereupon the squadron would become an integral part of the Imperial fleet for the duration of the war. In 1909 the Fisher Ministry offered to make this transfer automatic; but at that year's Conference it was arranged that it should be left to the good feeling of whatever Government should be in office when a war broke out.

The first actual warning of the impending war in 1914 reached Australia on 30th July from the officers commanding the East Indies and the China squadrons. The Naval Board had already taken preliminary steps towards a war organisation, and on the 31st it was established. On 3rd August the Federal Government made a definite offer to place the squadron under Admiralty control in the event of war, and this was formally done on the 10th. From that date, all ships, officers and seamen of the Commonwealth Naval Forces became an integral part of the Imperial Navy "during such period as the state of war against Germany shall continue."

At the outbreak of war the *Australia* and *Sydney* had been in Australian waters barely nine months, but the greater part of this time had been spent in hard training for active service. When war became imminent, the squadron was off the Queensland coast; in four days it was ready for war, although most of the ships had to be recalled to Port Jackson for refit. Directly war was declared, it was sent north to search the German Islands for the German squadron, of which nothing was known except that it was somewhere in the Pacific. The search had scarcely begun, however—Simpsonshafen and a few other bays in the Bismarck Archipelago had been drawn blank—when the *Australia* was recalled by Imperial orders to escort New Zealand troops to Samoa, returning from that task to escort Australian troops (including a contingent of the Naval Brigade) to Rabaul, while the light cruisers visited Nauru and Anguar and destroyed the German wireless stations on those islands. Directly these operations had been carried out, the light cruisers were withdrawn from the Pacific altogether, and allotted to escort to Egypt the first convoy of Australian troops for European service.

This left the *Australia*, the *Encounter*, and the three destroyers to resume the search for the German squadron, which meanwhile had appeared for a moment off Samoa and incidentally raided the cable station at Fanning Island. Accordingly the *Australia*, after helping to complete the occupation of German New Guinea, proceeded to Fiji and instituted a series of sweeping movements eastwards, in case the German ships should design to recapture Samoa or attack Australasian trade. When, early in November, the German squadron was found on the Chilean coast (where it fought a successful action with a weaker British squadron), the *Australia* was despatched to Mexican waters to join an allied squadron, and in the end followed the Germans into the Atlantic. There she captured their store-ship—the warships themselves having been destroyed off the Falklands by Admiral Sturdee—and went to England to become one of the Grand Fleet's battle cruisers in the North Sea.

The destroyers had from the first taken a very active part in New Guinea operations. They had by night penetrated the harbour at Simpsonshafen during the first visit to Rabaul; they had shared in the second attack on Rabaul, and landed a contingent to assist in the fighting for the wireless station; when the *Australia* left for Fiji, they searched the coast of German New Guinea and the adjacent islands for any small German warcraft that might be lying hidden up one or other of the big rivers. In the course of this work they explored the Sepik River, the most important in New Guinea, for several hundred miles inland. Subsequently, up to the spring of 1915, they maintained a patrol of the north-eastern coasts of Australia, and were then despatched to join the China squadron, which was chiefly employed in destroying enemy trade and thwarting enemy plots in the area between Colombo and Timor.

The rest of the Australian squadron was now scattered over the oceans. The *Melbourne* and *Sydney*, having convoyed the troops safely to Egypt (on the voyage the *Sydney* intercepted and destroyed the raider *Emden* which had gravely damaged British commerce in the Indian Ocean), were allotted to the North Atlantic patrol and spent the next two years in guarding trade and searching for enemy raiders between Halifax and the Amazons. The *Pioneer*, which had begun the war as patrol-ship off Western Australia, joined a squadron at work on the East African coast, and took part in the destruction of the *Koenigsberg* and the occupation of German East Africa. Of the two Australian submarines, one was lost near Rabaul, apparently not by enemy action; the other was sent to the Dardanelles, was one of the first submarines to enter the sea of Marmora, and was wrecked there by the Turks. Two small vessels, the *Psyche* and *Fantome*, placed by the Admiralty under Australian control, joined the China squadron in July, 1915, and took up patrol work in the Bay of Bengal, and a German yacht, the *Komet*, which had been captured in a New Britain harbour and converted into H.M.A.S. *Una*, was used to patrol the coast of New Guinea and the Bismarck Archipelago.

Between December, 1915, and October, 1916, three destroyers and a light cruiser, all built at Cockatoo Island, were commissioned and put on active service. The destroyers went to Singapore to relieve those already with the China squadron, the *Brisbane* was sent to the Mediterranean. But events of the early months of 1917—when the German submarine campaign was intensified, and evidence came to hand of the presence of raiders in both the Indian and the Pacific oceans—altered the whole disposition of the Australian ships. The *Melbourne* and *Sydney* were recalled from the Atlantic patrol to join a light cruiser squadron of the Grand Fleet; the *Brisbane* came back from the Mediterranean to search the Indian Ocean, and afterwards patrolled the ex-German islands; the destroyers, all six of them, were sent to the Mediterranean to escort convoys and support an anti-submarine barrage in the mouth of the Adriatic. The *Encounter*, which had for a long time been patrol vessel off Fremantle, convoyed troopships between New Zealand and Colombo and at intervals visited the Western Pacific; and the safety of the Australian coast was ensured by a system of local patrols carried out by specially commissioned sloops and gunboats, while mines laid by the Indian Ocean raider *Wolf* before these precautions had been taken were swept up by specially equipped mine-sweepers. At the close of hostilities the *Australia*, two light cruisers, and the two fleet auxiliaries were serving in British waters; the third light cruiser and six destroyers in the Mediterranean; the *Encounter* was guarding the Australian trade route in the Indian Ocean, and the *Fantome* that through the Western Pacific; the *Una* was patrolling New Guinea waters; and seven smaller vessels were on the coastal patrol.

It is worth note that during the war Australian vessels were twice called on to assist the Condominium authorities in maintaining order in the New Hebrides—the *Una* acting with a French warship in 1916, and the *Fantome* by herself in 1918.

Apart from the doings of the sea-going Navy, important work was done throughout the war by Naval forces acting on land and along the Australian coast. Thus the Royal Australian Naval Brigade conducted the examination services in force at each defended

port, the signal and lookout stations, harbour patrols, wharf and dock defences, and other similar duties, besides manning the coastal patrol vessels and mine-sweepers already mentioned. It also contributed to the fighting forces oversea a contingent which fought in German New Guinea, and a Bridging Train which operated at Gallipoli and in Egypt; supplied many ratings both to the sea-going navy and to the naval radio service; and provided gun crews and signalmen to many transports and merchantmen.

The Naval Dockyards and similar establishments during the war built one light cruiser (a second is nearly ready), three destroyers, a fleet collier and numerous small craft, fitted up more than 70 transports, with accommodation for 113,000 men and 17,000 horses, converted the *Komet* into the *Una*, and supplied gun platforms to 64 merchant vessels for defensive purposes. The Transport Branch organised and completed the despatch to Europe of about 350,000 troops and Naval forces, besides nearly 38,000 horses, and—until the control of shipping was taken over by a separate Department—sent away cargo to the value of nearly 13 millions sterling. Important work was also carried out by the other Naval establishments.

The operations of the R.A.N. Radio Service during the war included organisation and control of the Naval Wireless Telegraph Shore Stations of Australia and the Pacific for the conduct of communications with H.M. and H.M.A. ships, transports, and all vessels of the mercantile marine.

The success of Fleet operations in Australian, Pacific or Indian waters depends to a considerable extent upon efficient wireless communications. Movements of transports and all other vessels on the high seas during the war are controlled by wireless telegraphy, and their safety against enemy submarines, mines, raiders, etc., is largely dependent upon the efficiency of apparatus and operators.

About 350,000 Australian troops were transported to the seat of war. No ship was permitted to proceed to sea without a certificate that her wireless equipment was in first-class order, and that efficient operators were on board. This was only possible by adopting a system of rigid inspection of ships' installations at the various ports in Australia, and the training, instruction, and appointment of wireless operators to the various ships. Over 300 operators were trained and appointed as additional operators to transports. All ships carrying troops throughout the war carried not less than three operators, and kept continuous watch.

Besides the general conduct of communications with the Fleet, transmission of instructions to transports and ships of the mercantile marine, transmission of warnings, etc., the stations were engaged in looking out for and intercepting enemy signals, the origin of which had to be traced.

During the last two years of the war, Australian stations intercepted messages from England, Germany, France, and also from American stations. British stations were heard from time to time. The daily intercept from Nauen High-power Wireless Station in Germany on many occasions reached over 2,000 words, the distance bridged being over 12,000 miles.

The work of the Department further included the manufacture, supply, and fitting of wireless plant and equipment required for H.M. and H.M.A. ships, transports, and shore stations, besides carrying out the necessary repairs to wireless plant, and providing additional new apparatus to keep the installations abreast of scientific development.

About 20 new wireless installations were manufactured, and a considerable amount of new apparatus had to be fitted in transports, etc., for Admiralty purposes. The acquisition of suitable wireless telegraphy works enabled the Naval Service to adequately meet the requirements of the war.

(vi) *Special War Expenditure, 1914-18.* The estimate of special war expenditure as given in the annual estimates, 1917-18, is shown below. The war expenditure for the three previous years is also given. Reference to War Finance will be found in Section XIX., Commonwealth Finance, pp. 763, 764 and 771.

SPECIAL WAR EXPENDITURE, 1914 TO 1918.

| Particulars. | 1914-15. | 1915-16. | 1916-17. | 1917-18. | 1918-19.*(a) |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Special expenditure on Expeditionary and Australian forces— | | | | | |
| Naval | 4,288,253 | 5,249,166 | 4,089,919 | 3,893,627 | 3,867,300 |
| Military | 10,232,787 | 32,474,340 | 47,667,248 | 50,956,888 | 65,655,000 |
| Interest on outstanding amounts due for maintenance of Australian troops at the front | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3,430,000 |
| Interest on loan from British Government for war purposes | 36,489 | 843,893 | 2,082,258 | 2,477,288 | 2,377,656 |
| Interest on Commonwealth War Loan | .. | 999,976 | 2,723,323 | 4,743,355 | 7,744,000 |
| Interest on Treasury Bills in aid of Revenue | 78,656 | 14,845 | 14,485 | .. | .. |
| Sinking Funds on Loans for War Purposes | .. | 200,777 | 1,167,127 | 761,191 | 1,194,410 |
| Grant to Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Fund | .. | 250,000 | .. | 200,000 | 1,000,000 |
| War Pensions | 437 | 139,460 | 1,185,907 | 2,831,386 | 5,180,853 |
| War Census | .. | 57,444 | 11,711 | 40 | 100 |
| Referenda, Military Service | .. | .. | 79,427 | 85,385 | 1,000 |
| Trading Vessels | 153,973 | 318,285 | 674,565 | 994,520 | 275,000 |
| Miscellaneous | 219,305 | 643,170 | 1,817,275 | 3,026,710 | 9,289,092 |
| Premiums on Life Assurance policies of Commonwealth public servants who are members of Expeditionary forces | 1,435 | 10,590 | 22,146 | 29,268 | 30,000 |
| Total | 15,011,335 | 41,201,946 | 61,535,891 | 670,009,658 | 100,044,411 |

Figures are in some cases liable to small adjustments by audit.

(a) Estimate.

(b) Includes a credit of £3,267,308.

(vii) *War Pensions.* Pensions payable under the War Pensions Act 1914 in case of death or incapacity are on the following scale:—

SCALE OF PENSIONS PAYABLE.

(a) To widow on death of member of forces, or to member upon total incapacity:—

| Rate of Pay of Member per day at date of Death or Incapacity. | Pension Payable to Widow per fortnight. | Pension Payable to Member upon Total Incapacity per fortnight. | Rate of Pay of Member per day at date of Death or Incapacity. | Pension Payable to Widow per fortnight. | Pension Payable to Member upon Total Incapacity per fortnight. |
|---|---|--|---|---|--|
| s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 6 0 | 2 0 0 | 3 0 0 | 13 0 | 2 19 0 | 3 14 0 |
| 7 0 | 2 3 0 | 3 2 0 | 17 6 | 3 10 0 | 4 0 0 |
| 9 0 | 2 9 0 | 3 6 0 | 22 6 | 3 17 6 | 4 5 0 |
| 10 0 | 2 12 3 | 3 8 0 | 30 0 | 4 9 0 | 4 15 0 |
| 10 6 | 2 13 9 | 3 9 0 | 37 6 | 5 0 9 | 5 5 0 |
| 11 6 | 2 16 0 | 3 11 0 | 45 0 | 5 12 3 | 5 15 0 |
| 12 0 | 2 17 3 | 3 12 0 | 50 0 | 6 0 0 | 6 0 0 |
| | | | and upwards | | |

(b) To each child (son, daughter, stepson, stepdaughter, or adopted child of member of forces, under 16):—Twenty shillings per fortnight for the first child, fifteen shillings per fortnight for the second child, and ten shillings per fortnight for the third and each subsequent child.

(c) To other dependents (dependent members of family of deceased or incapacitated member of forces):—Rates as assessed by Commissioner or Deputy-Commissioner, but not exceeding for one person the rate specified in the second column above as payable to the widow, and not exceeding in the aggregate that sum, plus £2 per fortnight.

(d) To wife of member of forces upon his total incapacity:—50 per cent. of rate payable to husband.

(e) To each child of member upon his total incapacity:—Same as (b) above.

(f) To member upon partial incapacity:—Loss of leg or foot or hand or arm—maximum rate for six months, thereafter three-fourths of the maximum rate. Loss of one eye—half the maximum rate. Loss of both legs or both feet, or both arms or both hands, or arm and leg or hand and foot, or both eyes, or one eye together with loss of leg, foot, hand or arm—the maximum rate.

§ 6. Special Defence Legislation.

1. War Precautions Acts.—On the outbreak of war in Europe, the Federal Parliament passed an Act to enable the Governor-General to make regulations and orders for the safety of the Commonwealth during the state of war. The provisions of this Act, which was assented to on 29th October, 1914, will be found in Official Year Book No. 8, page 1092. Particulars of the *Enemy Contracts Annulment Act* will be found in the same issue of the Year Book, page 1095.

The War Precautions Act 1918 provides that the War Precautions Act 1914–16 shall remain in force only until 31st July, 1919, or for a period of three months after the issue of a proclamation that the state of war has ceased, whichever period is the longer. All regulations made under the Act will lapse with it.

Under the powers conferred by the above Acts, the *War Precautions Regulations* were made. They provided for the appointment of competent naval or military authorities to exercise certain powers under the regulations, and other matters. The principal provisions of the regulations are given in Official Year Book No. 11, pp. 1035–1043.

§ 7. Persons of Enemy Birthplace.

The following table shews the estimated number of males of enemy birthplace (natives of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, and Bulgaria, whether naturalised or otherwise, but exclusive of persons of British parentage), in each State at the 31st July, 1915, and the estimated number naturalised. While the States and military districts are not quite conterminous, they approximate sufficiently to admit of the comparison:—

MALES OF ENEMY BIRTHPLACE IN THE COMMONWEALTH AT 31st JULY, 1915.

| State and Military District. | | Male Enemy Subjects.* | Number Naturalised.* | Number not Naturalised.* |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Queensland | 1st Military District | 8,080 | 6,640 | 1,440 |
| New South Wales | 2nd " " | 6,460 | 4,330 | 2,130 |
| Victoria | 3rd " " | 4,920 | 3,300 | 1,620 |
| South Australia | 4th " " | 3,270 | 2,630 | 640 |
| Western Australia | 5th " " | 3,190 | 1,280 | 1,910 |
| Tasmania | 6th " " | 380 | 320 | 60 |
| Total | | 26,300 | 18,500 | 7,800 |

* These figures are based on Census returns, and can only be considered as a rough approximation.

The number of females of enemy birthplace in the Commonwealth at 31st July, 1915, is estimated at about 12,000.