

Fees and other receipts are paid into Consolidated Revenue in all States except Victoria, where they are retained and spent by the Technical School Councils. The expenditure on buildings is largely financed from loan moneys, the sums provided from this source in 1949 being (the expenditure in 1948 is shown in brackets):—New South Wales, £229,807 (£139,698); Victoria, £190,050 (£130,156); Queensland, £24,328 (£11,327); South Australia, £20,135 (£3,976); Western Australia, £12,117 (£17,408); and Tasmania, £18,441 (£4,261).

The expenditure on maintenance for technical education in Australia in 1949 amounted to 8s. 9d. per head of the mean population, as compared with £3 per head expended on maintenance for primary and secondary education.

§ 10. Commonwealth War-time Technical Training Scheme.

1. *Origin of the Scheme.*—The Commonwealth Technical Training Scheme was originated during the 1939–45 War to provide for the training of civilians and Armed Services personnel for the production of aircraft and munitions and to meet the demand of the Armed Services for skilled technicians.

2. *Training.*—During the period of operation of the Scheme—from 18th December, 1939 to 29th April, 1949—instruction was given in 78 different types of courses in 60 Technical Colleges throughout Australia, 119,717 persons completing training. The figures for each State and service were given on p. 257 of Official Year Book No. 38.

§ 11. Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme.

1. *Object of the Scheme.*—The object of the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme is to provide training to enable ex-service men and women and certain special non-service personnel to become re-established in suitable civilian occupations.

2. *Closing Date.*—The latest date for acceptance of applications for training under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme was 30th June, 1950.

3. *Types of Training.*—The Scheme provided three types of training—(a) University-type (professional); (b) Technical-type (professional or vocational); and (c) Rural training.

Professional training follows normal lines at a university or similar institution. Vocational training includes most types of trade training given at technical colleges or schools. Members selected for vocational training usually receive approximately six month's basic training. On reaching an assessed proficiency of 40 per cent., they are placed in subsidized employment and are paid the full adult wage or determination for the trade concerned, the employer being reimbursed in the form of a wage subsidy according to the trainees' lack of proficiency. Proficiency is reviewed regularly and the subsidy adjusted accordingly.

4. *Allowances.*—Full-time trainees receive allowances ranging from £4 10s. per week for a single man to £6 10s. per week for a married man with dependants. In addition, all tuition fees are paid and allowances provided for fares, books and instruments. Trainees may claim a special allowance if they are required to live away from home.

5. *Part-time Training.*—Tuition fees and expenses incidental to tuition (such as books), up to a limit of £60, are payable in respect of members accepted for part-time training.

6. *Organization and Administration.*—The Scheme is administered by the Repatriation Commission through the Central Reconstruction Training Committee, which has the functions of general planning, organization and direction. This Committee comprises representatives of the Repatriation Commission, Universities Commission, Department of Labour and National Service, and three members appointed by the Minister and drawn from organizations of employers, employees and ex-servicemen.

7. **Number Trained.**—The Scheme commenced to operate in a limited way in March, 1944, and between that date and 31st May, 1951, 334,269 ex-service men and women were accepted for training. The position as at 31st May, 1951 was as follows :—

COMMONWEALTH RECONSTRUCTION SCHEME : NUMBER TRAINED AND IN TRAINING, 31st MAY, 1951.

Particulars.	University-type Training.		Technical-type Training.		Rural Training (Full-time).	Total.
	Full-time.	Part-time.	Full-time.	Part-time.		
Accepted	24,939	19,086	91,253	195,985	3,006	334,269
Withdrawn before commencement	3,137	2,349	26,768	31,420	815	64,489
Awaiting commencement	74	141	199	..	13	427
Commenced	21,728	16,596	64,286	164,565	2,178	269,353
Withdrawn after commencement	6,246	6,743	22,724	98,905	525	135,143
Completed	12,177	4,983	33,757	41,948	1,583	94,448
In training	3,305	4,870	7,805	23,712	70	39,762

The number of withdrawals prior to commencement of training was largely owing to members lodging applications for training on discharge from the Forces, but later securing employment or business opportunities for which they were suited without training. Withdrawals from training after commencement of courses were due to a number of reasons, including sickness, failure in examinations and re-enlistment in the Forces ; but many trainees, especially in the building trades, have been able, without formally completing their training, to follow the trade by engaging in sub-contract construction work or by going into partnerships with tradesmen. Of the part-time trainees who have discontinued courses, a large proportion are members who overstated their training requirements in the first instance, and who might more appropriately be regarded as having completed the training which they have since considered necessary for their re-establishment in civilian life.

§ 12. Libraries.

1. **General.**—The Munn-Pitt report of 1935 greatly stimulated interest in libraries and librarianship throughout Australia. This is seen in the rapid development of libraries in all States, all of which, except Western Australia, have now passed legislation to increase library services, and in the establishment in 1937 of the Australian Institute of Librarians to improve the standard of librarianship. This body was reconstituted in 1949 as the Library Association of Australia, its functions now including the promotion and improvement of libraries and library services. The Association conducts annual examinations for which students are prepared by courses of instruction in all States. Formal library schools exist in the National Library, Canberra, and the Public Libraries at Sydney and Melbourne.

2. **Commonwealth.**—(i) *Commonwealth National Library.* This library was created as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library in 1901. The library of Congress was chosen in 1903 as the model upon which its collections and services should be developed and it has therefore assembled a great reference collection with special emphasis on Australian material and rendering services on a national basis.

While the provision of a reference service to Members of Parliament and to Government Departments remains a primary responsibility, the National Library now offers research facilities to University institutions in the Australian Capital Territory and to students of Australian history and affairs, publishes basic bibliographies in the field of Australiana and serves as a free public library for residents of the Australian Capital Territory.