

(iii) *Commonwealth Referenda. (a) General.* According to Section 128 of the Constitution, any proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution must, in addition to being passed by an absolute majority of each House of Parliament, be submitted to a referendum of the electors in each State, and must further be approved by a majority of the States and of the electors who voted, before it can be presented for Royal Assent. So far 23 proposals have been submitted to referenda and the consent of the electors has been received in four cases only, the first in relation to the election of Senators in 1906, the second and third in respect of State Debts—one in 1910 and the other in 1928—and the fourth in respect of Social Services in 1946. Details of the various referenda and the voting thereon were given in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 18, p. 87, No. 31, p. 67, No. 35, p. 60, No. 36, p. 61, No. 37, pp. 64-5 and No. 38, p. 84).

(b) *Constitution Alteration (Powers to deal with Communists and Communism) Referendum, 22nd September, 1951.* Details of the voting in this referendum, which resulted in an overall majority and majorities in three States against the proposed amendment, were as follows:—

**CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (POWERS TO DEAL WITH COMMUNISTS AND COMMUNISM) REFERENDUM, 22nd SEPTEMBER, 1951.**

State.	Votes Recorded in Favour of Proposed Law.		Votes Recorded Against Proposed Law.		Number of Informal Ballot-papers.	Total.
	Number.	Percentage.	Number.	Percentage.		
New South Wales ..	865,838	47.2	969,868	52.8	25,441	1,861,147
Victoria ..	636,819	48.7	670,513	51.3	18,692	1,326,024
Queensland ..	373,156	55.8	290,019	44.2	6,741	675,916
South Australia ..	198,971	47.3	221,763	52.7	6,519	427,253
Western Australia ..	164,989	55.1	134,497	44.9	6,167	305,653
Tasmania ..	78,154	50.3	77,349	49.7	3,093	158,596
Total ..	2,317,927	49.4	2,370,009	50.6	66,653	4,754,589

2. *State Elections.*—(i) *Latest in each State. (a) Upper Houses.* The following table shows particulars of the voting at the most recent elections for the Upper Houses or Legislative Councils in the States of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. In New South Wales the electorate for the Legislative Council comprises the members of both Houses, in Queensland there has been no Legislative Council since 1922, and in Tasmania three members of the Council are elected annually (but four in each sixth year) and the Council cannot be dissolved as a whole.

**STATE UPPER HOUSE ELECTIONS.**

State.	Year of Latest Election.	Electors Enrolled—Whole State.			Contested Electorates.					
					Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors who Voted.		
		Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
Victoria (a) ..	1952	676,195	719,455	1,395,650	485,417	508,773	994,190	92.91	91.42	92.14
South Australia ..	1950	(b)	(b)	161,917	(b)	(b)	52,954	(b)	(b)	78.76
Western Australia	1950	60,156	25,013	85,169	22,237	7,458	29,695	50.30	44.08	48.57

(a) First election on the basis of adult suffrage.

(b) Not available.