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SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS, 1935-36 - No. 12.

The Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson) has made available particulars of Savings Bank Deposits at 30th June, 1936. The statement also includes some comparative particulars for earlier years.

Savings Bank Deposits.
30th June, 1936 and 1935.

State or Territory	At 30th June, 1936 (Preliminary)			At 30th June, 1935		
	Cwealth Savings Bank	State Savings Banks	All Savings Banks	Cwealth Savings Bank	State Savings Banks	All Savings Banks
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
New South Wales ..	80,000	-	80,000	77,906	-	77,906
Victoria ..	9,487	64,403	73,890	8,911	63,108	72,019
Queensland ..	27,132	-	27,132	26,197	-	26,197
South Australia ..	2,702	(b)22,635	25,337	2,508	21,676	24,184
Western Australia	11,517	-	11,517	10,929	-	10,929
Tasmania ..	1,981	(a) 4,837	6,818	1,854	(a) 4,576	6,430
Federal Capital Territory ..	239	-	239	230	-	230
Northern Territory	58	-	58	54	-	54
Total ..	133,116	91,875	224,991	128,589	89,360	217,949

(a) Trustee Savings Banks, Hobart and Launceston.
 (b) Includes estimate of £600,000 for Interest.

Deposits increased by approximately £2,830,000 (1.27 per cent) during June, 1936. This increase was due entirely to the addition of interest at 30th June as withdrawals exceeded deposits in all States except western Australia and the Federal Capital Territory.

During the year 1935-36 deposits increased by £7,042,000 (or 3.23 per cent) to £224,991,000, which total has only been exceeded once in the history of the Australian Savings Banks. That was during 1929-30, when the deposits reached £225,963,000.

2. Increase in deposits, 1934 to 1936. The actual and percentage increase in each State during each of the last three financial years is given in the following statement.

Increase in Deposits - Actual and on Percentage Basis - during the years ended 30th June, 1934 to 1936.
 Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

State or Territory	Increase during 12 months ended 30th June					
	1934		1935		1936	
	Amount	Per-centage	Amount	Per-centage	Amount	Per-centage
	£'000	%	£'000	%	£'000	%
New South Wales ..	3,406	4.71	2,192	2.90	2,094	2.69
Victoria ..	2,157	3.18	2,048	2.93	1,871	2.60
Queensland	1,381	5.89	1,363	5.49	935	3.57
South Australia ..	923	4.10	746	3.18	1,153	4.77
Western Australia	335	3.33	530	5.10	588	5.38
Tasmania ..	174	2.97	391	6.48	388	6.03
Federal Capital Territory ..	12	5.33	- 7	- 2.95	9	3.91
Northern Territory	6	15.79	10	22.73	4	7.41
Total ..	8,394	4.15	7,272	3.45	7,042	3.23

3. Deposits, each month, 1931 to 1936. The collection of statistics showing Savings Bank deposits at the end of each month has been in operation since July, 1931, and the following table shows the deposits monthly since that date. Figures were previously available only at quarterly intervals.

Deposits each Month - 1931 to 1936.

End of	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
January..	-	194,534	198,067	204,868	213,175	221,088
February	-	198,988	198,355	205,449	213,374	221,885
March ..	192,872	193,526	198,225	205,534	213,509	221,641
April ..	-	192,574	197,842	206,157	213,946	221,901
May ..	-	192,399	197,496	207,000	214,698	222,161
June ..	193,375	197,966	202,282	210,676	217,949	224,991
July ..	192,436	197,405	202,337	210,895	218,424	
August ..	192,547	197,589	202,657	211,994	219,416	
September	193,581	197,802	202,641	212,556	220,020	
October..	194,611	198,108	203,112	213,564	221,059	
November	195,494	198,043	203,425	213,395	221,670	
December	194,515	197,117	203,331	212,922	220,525	

The volume of deposits in recent years reached the lowest point in May, 1932, since when there has been a steady and substantial increase. In the second quarter of 1932 the trade union percentage of unemployment was at its peak.

4. Deposits per head and Purchasing Power. The table following shows deposits per head of population, "Actual" and "Adjusted to Purchasing Power" (in terms of Food and Housing), at 30th June in each year from 1926 to 1936.

DEPOSITS PER HEAD OF POPULATION.

At 30th June	Actual		Adjusted to Purchasing Power \emptyset	
	£	Index Number	£	Index Number
		1926=1,000		1926=1,000
1926	32.27	1,000	32.27	1,000
1927	33.09	1,025	34.57	1,071
1928	34.14	1,058	35.05	1,086
1929	35.26	1,093	35.30	1,094
1930	33.65	1,043	35.42	1,098
1931	29.63	918	35.95	1,114
1932	30.10	933	38.64	1,197
1933	30.51	945	41.39	1,283
1934	31.55	978	41.46	1,285
1935	32.41	1,004	41.99	1,301
1936	33.20	1,029	41.87	1,297

\emptyset On the basis of the "A" Series of Retail Price Index Numbers.

Since 1921 deposits per head increased by roughly 3 per cent per annum until they reached a maximum of £35.26 in 1929. A rapid decline followed during the next two years, after which the downward trend was reversed. In 1936 the recovery to £33.20 (3 per cent above the 1926 level) represented an increase of 18 per cent on the 1921 figure. When deposits are adjusted to purchasing power a more favourable position is disclosed. From 1926 to 1936 a continuous increase was recorded in the purchasing power of deposits (in terms of food and housing). While there was a slight drop, in 1936, the level in that year represented an increase of 30 per cent in the 10 years.

In interpreting the above figures it should be remembered that Savings Bank accounts are used to some extent by institutions and

business people, as well as by individuals for the investment of personal savings. The relative extent to which Savings Bank accounts are used for business purposes, etc., may - and probably does - fluctuate considerably from time to time.

5. Quarterly Figures. The accompanying graph shows the volume of Savings Bank deposits at the end of each quarter from June 1926 to June 1936.

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Commonwealth Statistician.

5th August, 1936.

£ MILS.

SAYINGS BANK DEPOSITS
EACH QUARTER - 1926 TO 1936

£ MILS.

