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EVENING PAPERS .. MONDAY, 2nd MAY, 1938.
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SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS - 31st MARCH, 1938 (NO. 9).

The Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson) has made available particulars of Savings Bank deposits at 31st March, 1938. The statement also includes comparative figures for earlier years.

Savings Bank Deposits - 31st March, 1937 and 1938.

State or Territory	31st March, 1937			31st March, 1938		
	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	79,770	-	79,770	83,989	-	83,989
Victoria ..	9,658	64,234	73,892	10,521	66,910	77,431
Queensland ..	26,795	-	26,795	27,627	-	27,627
South Australia	2,856	22,860	25,716	3,010	23,626	26,636
Western Australia	11,497	-	11,497	11,817	-	11,817
Tasmania ..	2,035	(a)5,008	7,043	2,171	(a)5,422	7,593
Federal Capital Territory ..	258	-	258	278	-	278
Northern Territory	58	-	58	60	-	60
Total:	132,927	92,102	225,029	139,473	95,958	235,431

(a) Trustee Savings Banks, Hobart and Launceston.

During the month of March, 1938 deposits increased by £491,000 compared with a decrease of £35,000 during March, 1937. Increases were recorded in New South Wales (£292,000); Victoria (£203,000); South Australia (£88,000); Tasmania (£27,000); Federal Capital Territory (£7,000); and Northern Territory (£1,000); while in Queensland and Western Australia deposits decreased by £122,000 and £5,000, respectively.

Details of the increases in each State - actual amounts and expressed as percentages - are given in the following table for each period of twelve months ended 31st March, 1936, 1937 and 1938.

Increase in Deposits - Actual and on Percentage Basis - during the years ended 31st March, 1936, 1937 and 1938.

State or Territory	Increase during 12 months ended 31st March					
	1936		1937		1938	
	Amount	Per-centage	Amount	Per-centage	Amount	Per-centage
	£'000	%	£'000	%	£'000	%
New South Wales	2,466	3.22	653	0.83	4,219	5.29
Victoria ..	2,034	2.88	1,328	1.83	3,539	4.79
Queensland ..	1,259	4.91	-97	-0.36	832	3.11
South Australia	1,237	5.26	969	3.92	920	3.58
Western Australia	738	6.98	190	1.68	320	2.78
Tasmania ..	388	6.13	316	4.71	550	7.80
Federal Capital Territory ..	2	0.90	28	12.11	20	7.69
Northern Territory	8	15.76	1	0.89	2	2.90
Total:	8,132	3.81	3,388	1.53	10,402	4.62

Minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

The following table shows the deposits in Savings Banks monthly since January, 1932.

Deposits each Month - 1932 to 1938.

End of	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
January	194,534	198,067	204,868	213,175	221,088	224,653	234,082
February	193,988	198,355	205,449	213,374	221,885	225,064	234,940
March	193,526	198,225	205,534	213,509	221,641	225,029	235,431
April	192,574	197,842	206,157	213,946	221,901	225,755	
May	192,399	197,496	207,000	214,698	222,161	225,663	
June	197,966	202,282	210,676	217,949	224,962	230,851	
July	197,405	202,337	210,895	218,424	224,426	231,140	
August	197,589	202,657	211,994	219,416	224,849	232,029	
September	197,802	202,641	212,556	220,020	225,045	232,845	
October	198,108	203,112	213,564	221,059	225,457	234,297	
November	198,043	203,425	213,395	221,670	225,826	235,329	
December	197,117	203,331	212,922	220,525	224,195	233,501	

Prior to the depression deposits reached their highest level (£225,963,000) at 30th September, 1929. During the depression period the lowest figure recorded was £192,399,000 in May, 1932, although the lowest point was probably reached in May, 1931, but as figures were only available at quarterly intervals during that year, the actual amount of deposits in that month was not recorded. Since May, 1932 deposits have increased by over £43,000,000 and in March, 1938 reached a new record of £235,431,000, which is £9,468,000 in excess of the pre-depression peak.

ROLAND WILSON

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Canberra, F.C.T.

2nd May, 1938.