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MONTHLY REVIEW OF BUSINESS STATISTICS

NOVEMBER, 1940.

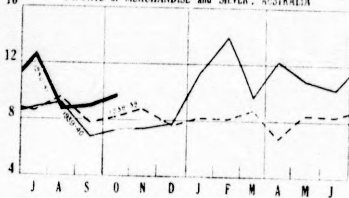
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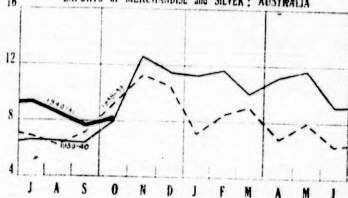
BY

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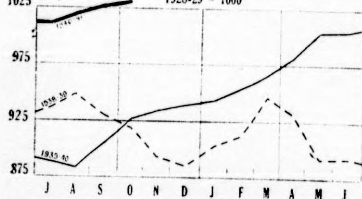
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IMPORTS of MERCHANDISE and SILVER: AUSTRALIA



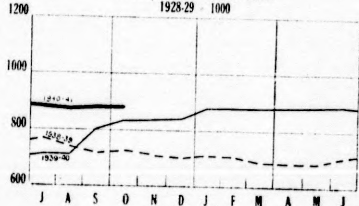
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EXPORTS of MERCHANDISE and SILVER: AUSTRALIA



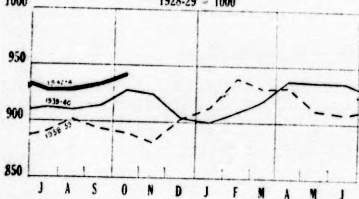
1025
975
925
875
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX: BASIC MATERIALS and FOODS
1928-29 = 1000



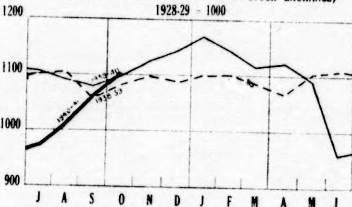
1200
1000
800
600
EXPORT PRICE INDEX: AUSTRALIA
1928-29 = 1000



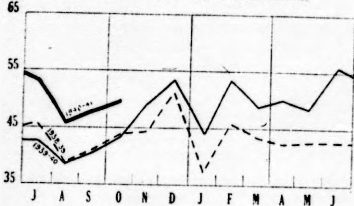
Index No
1000
950
900
850
RETAIL PRICE INDEX—FOOD and GROCERIES: SIX CAPITALS
1928-29 = 1000



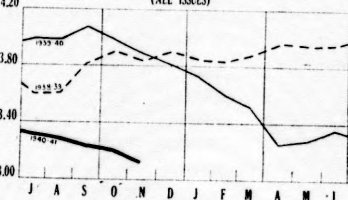
1200
1100
1000
900
ORDINARY SHARE PRICE INDEX (SYDNEY STOCK EXCHANGE)
1928-29 = 1000



£m
65
55
45
35
WEEKLY AVERAGE BANK CLEARINGS: SIX CAPITALS



%
4.20
3.80
3.40
3.00
AVERAGE YIELD: AUSTRALIAN CONSOLIDATED LOANS
(ALL ISSUES)



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NEW SOUTH WALES : EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following indexes, compiled by the Government Statistician of New South Wales, relate to *total employment and unemployment* in New South Wales. Owing to the incidence of enlistments and entry into wage-earning employment of persons not normally wage earners, it is not possible to compile an index of employment and unemployment for May, 1940, and later months, until further data are obtained.

Middle of month.	Percentage of all who are dependent on and available for employment—			
	Including full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers with employed.		Excluding full-time equivalent of part-time relief workers from employed.	
	Employed.	Unemployed.	Employed.	Unemployed.
1933—June	74.4	25.6	73.5	26.5
1934—June	80.5	19.5	77.8	22.2
1935—June	85.9	14.1	83.1	16.9
1936—June	89.3	10.7	87.1	12.9
1937—June	93.5	6.5	92.3	7.7
1938—June	96.1	3.9	95.1	4.9
1939—June	93.7	6.3	92.6	7.4
1939—				
July	93.8	6.2	92.7	7.3
August	93.5	6.5	92.4	7.6
September	94.0	6.0	93.0	7.0
October	95.0	5.0	94.1	5.9
November	95.4	4.6	94.6	5.4
December(a)	96.1	3.9	95.4	4.6
1940—				
January	94.4	5.6	93.6	6.4
February	95.1	4.9	94.4	5.6
March	95.6	4.4	94.9	5.1
April	94.0	6.0	93.3	6.7

(a) Adjusted to exclude casual seasonal assistants in retail stores.

NOTES.

1. The index of employment is the ratio of the number in employment to the estimated number of wage earners available for employment. The index of unemployment is the residue, but both indexes are derived by modifying the Census ratios in accordance with subsequent changes in number in employment and number estimated to be available for employment.

2. "Number in employment" is virtually a direct record; "number of available wage earners" is an estimate derived by increasing the total wage earners in employment (plus unemployed) at the Census of 1933 in ratio to the annual increase in persons aged 15 to 64 years, separate calculations being made for the sexes, and allowance made for net immigration. In order to increase the degree of precision in the index, adjustment is made in the number of available wage earners thus estimated to allow for (a) increase in the proportion of females who are wage earners, (b) youths who were without occupation but were not recorded in the wage-earning group at the Census of 1933. Adjustment for seasonal variations in employment is not made except in respect of casual retail employees in December. Since the outbreak of war, adjustment is due on account of enlistments in naval, military and air forces, and on account of persons (not formerly of the wage-earning group) who have entered employment.

3. At the Census of 1933, 15,142 persons, or 1.8 per cent. of total dependent on employment, were unemployed by reason of illness, accident, &c., or voluntarily. These are excluded from the indexes above, which relate to percentages of available wage earners employed and unemployed.

4. The percentages of unemployment shown above are approximations relating to all wage earners of both sexes. Separate estimates for males and females cannot be made from the data available.

QUEENSLAND : EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT.

The following table, compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry from census results, unemployed insurance contributions, workers' compensation records, and shop and factory returns, replaces that published in the Review prior to November, 1939.

NUMBERS IN WORK AND PERCENTAGE OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

Period.	Numbers in Work.				Percentage of Unemployment. (a)
	Employers and Workers on Own Account.	Employees.	Working for No Wages.	Total.	
<i>Average—</i>					
1928-29	86,300	204,400	9,100	299,800	13.0
1932-33	93,100	184,600	9,400	287,100	19.4
1933-34	94,700	194,700	9,600	299,000	17.3
1934-35	96,800	214,500	9,700	321,000	13.0
1935-36	98,900	223,500	9,900	332,300	11.7
1936-37	100,900	234,500	10,100	345,500	10.0
1937-38	103,000	245,800	10,300	359,100	8.3
1938-39	105,100	257,700	10,500	373,300	6.3
1939-40	107,200	263,400	10,600	381,200	5.8
<i>Three Months Ended—</i>					
1939-40—					
July	106,100	265,800	10,500	382,400	4.7
August	106,200	263,500	10,600	380,300	5.3
September	106,400	260,500	10,600	377,500	6.1
October	106,600	259,400	10,600	376,600	6.5
November	106,800	259,800	10,600	377,200	6.4
December	106,900	259,000	10,600	376,500	6.7
January	107,100	263,300	10,600	381,000	5.8
February	107,300	266,900	10,600	384,800	5.0
March	107,500	266,500	10,600	384,600	5.1
April	107,600	265,400	10,600	383,600	5.5
May	107,800	263,700	10,600	382,100	5.9
June	108,000	267,400	10,700	386,100	5.1
1940-41—					
July	108,200	265,600	10,700	384,500	5.6
August	108,400	263,600	10,700	382,700	6.2
September	108,500	261,900	10,700	381,100	6.7

(a) These percentages are not comparable with percentages of unemployment in other tables of this Review, having been compiled on a different basis.

NOTE.—Unemployment as shown above is deduced from comparisons between the numbers in work and the total number of available breadwinners. Owing to lack of information, it has not yet proved possible to adjust the latter figure for the effect of enlistments. As a result, the unemployment percentage since September, 1939, has been progressively overstated. Corrected figures for the period since September, 1939, will be published as soon as information is available.

TASMANIA: EMPLOYMENT.

The following table, compiled from the wages tax returns of private employers in respect of their employees, whether subject to or not subject to tax, and from returns of Commonwealth, State and Local Government employment, gives the best measure available of the course of *total employment* in Tasmania.

From July, 1940, total employment in Private Industry is estimated from monthly figures collected by the Deputy Statistician and not from wages tax returns.

Period.	Private Industry.			Public Authorities.			Total Employment— Public and Private.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
1936-37	30,858	9,522	40,380	10,798	1,763	12,561	41,656	11,285	52,941
1937-38	34,001	10,685	44,686	10,581	1,825	12,406	44,582	12,510	57,092
1938-39	37,849	12,184	50,033	10,488	1,879	12,367	48,337	14,063	62,400
1939-40	39,659	13,151	52,810	10,725	1,972	12,697	50,384	15,123	65,507
1938-39—									
October	36,417	11,553	47,970	10,701	1,879	12,580	47,118	13,432	60,550
November	37,670	11,765	49,435	10,561	1,879	12,440	48,231	13,644	61,875
December	38,463	12,376	50,839	10,728	1,843	12,571	49,191	14,219	63,410
January	39,006	13,249	52,255	10,249	1,784	12,033	49,255	15,033	64,288
February	39,435	12,850	52,285	10,624	1,913	12,537	50,059	14,763	64,822
March	41,728	13,616	55,344	10,637	1,903	12,540	52,365	15,519	67,884
April	39,825	12,543	52,368	10,187	1,895	12,082	50,012	14,438	64,450
May	38,863	12,191	51,054	10,111	1,911	12,022	48,974	14,102	63,076
June	36,964	11,883	48,847	10,208	1,925	12,133	47,172	13,808	60,980
1939-40—									
July	37,236	11,626	48,862	10,100	1,948	12,048	47,336	13,574	60,910
August	37,442	11,823	49,265	10,317	1,958	12,275	47,759	13,781	61,540
September	37,412	11,982	49,394	10,384	1,950	12,334	47,796	13,932	61,728
October	38,210	11,872	50,082	10,665	1,948	12,613	48,875	13,820	62,695
November	38,966	12,334	51,300	10,672	1,963	12,635	49,638	14,297	63,935
December	40,082	13,341	53,423	10,960	1,955	12,915	51,042	15,296	66,338
January	41,951	13,904	55,855	10,828	1,865	12,693	52,779	15,769	68,548
February	41,676	13,230	54,906	11,051	1,993	13,044	52,727	15,223	67,950
March	42,088	14,918	57,006	11,097	1,999	13,096	53,185	16,917	70,102
April	40,792	14,541	55,333	11,060	2,039	13,099	51,852	16,580	68,432
May	41,048	14,359	55,407	11,035	2,019	13,054	52,083	16,378	68,461
June	39,012	13,883	52,895	10,531	2,024	12,555	49,543	15,907	65,450
1940-41—									
July	37,987	13,956	51,943	10,187	2,069	12,256	48,174	16,025	64,199
August	38,402	13,898	52,300	9,881	2,078	11,959	48,283	15,976	64,259
September	39,204	14,624	53,828	9,878	2,116	11,994	49,082	16,740	65,822
October	39,807	13,996	53,803	9,977	2,099	12,076	49,784	16,095	65,879

NOTES.

1. For each month of 1938-39 the figures in the table may be regarded as providing a virtually complete record of total employment based on final collected figures. They are a combination of monthly figures received currently and annually, covering both private and public employment. They are deficient only to the inappreciable extent that some relief and other intermittent workers and domestic workers in private homes are not covered by the monthly returns. On the other hand, to the extent that they embrace the majority of workers subject to intermittent employment over the whole year, they reflect fully the seasonal and all other influences upon employment in Tasmania.

2. For the months since June, 1939, the figures are estimates based upon the current monthly movements of all public authority employment and of about 44 per cent. of total private employment. For a given month the figure of total private employment of the corresponding month of the previous year is changed in the ratio of the change of the current figure of private employment. The indication of the position for all employment in Tasmania given by this technical procedure must be read in the light of other indications of current change.

INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES.(a)

(Base : 1928-29 = 100.)

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Index.	
							Un-adjusted.	Divided by Index of Employee Population.
<i>Number of employees in—</i>								
1928-29	174,120	149,266	43,436	35,376	19,799	9,984	431,981	..
<i>Index for—</i>								
1928-29	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.0	100.0
1932-33	76	92	82	71	70	87	81.8	77.4
1933-34	85	100	88	80	77	92	89.7	84.0
1934-35	97	108	94	91	85	100	99.6	92.2
1935-36	107	117	99	105	100	110	109.4	100.2
1936-37	115	123	106	111	108	118	116.3	105.3
1937-38	124	130	114	121	111	125	124.3	111.3
1938-39	127	130	119	119	112	132	125.9	111.6
1939-40	129	132	121	121	108	138	127.9	112.1
1939-40—								
July	124	122	121	116	107	120	121.6	107.1
August	124	123	122	119	107	119	122.3	107.7
September	126	125	124	115	105	125	123.3	108.5
October	129	130	127	117	108	133	127.1	111.7
November	131	133	127	117	110	139	129.2	113.4
December	133	132	121	122	111	142	129.6	113.7
January	131	136	111	122	110	138	128.8	112.9
February	131	137	116	123	109	145	130.4	114.2
March	133	138	121	126	108	151	132.3	115.7
April	130	139	118	127	108	148	131.2	114.7
May	125	136	124	126	108	151	128.6	112.3
June	130	135	125	125	106	150	130.2	113.6
1940-41—								
July	133	135	129	123	106	146	131.3	114.5
August	135	135	132	126	105	146	132.5	115.4
September	136	136	133	131	107	146	134.4	117.0
October	138	139	130	133	107	145	136.1	118.3

(a) Excluding Working Proprietors.

A comparison of factory employment in October, 1940 (the latest month for which figures are available for all States), with the previous month of September, 1940, shows the following estimated percentage changes:—New South Wales, + 1.5; Victoria, + 2.2; Queensland, - 2.3; South Australia, + 1.5; Western Australia, nil; Tasmania, - 0.7; Australia, + 1.3 (or, taking account of the growth of employee population, + 1.1)

INDEX OF EMPLOYMENT IN RETAIL STORES.

(Base : July, 1933 = 100.)

Period.			New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australian Index.	
									Un- adjusted.	Divided by Index of Employee Population.
1933—July	..	..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100.0	100.0
1933—34	..	..	103	107	101	102	99	106	103.7	103.2
1934—35	..	..	111	118	106	108	105	103	111.6	109.6
1935—36	..	..	118	130	109	114	110	112	119.4	116.2
1936—37	..	..	124	137	111	115	115	119	124.7	120.1
1937—38	..	..	130	141	112	115	116	118	128.3	122.2
1938—39	..	..	132	142	114	114	116	133	130.0	122.5
1939—40	..	..	132	144	117	112	115	139	130.9	122.0
1939—40—										
July ..	..	..	133	138	116	110	119	138	129.4	121.2
August ..	..	..	129	137	114	109	114	134	126.8	118.7
September ..	..	..	129	137	114	112	111	133	126.6	118.4
October ..	..	..	130	141	114	109	111	135	128.1	119.7
November ..	..	..	133	147	117	111	113	139	131.6	122.9
December ..	..	..	148	165	131	127	125	154	147.8	137.9
January ..	..	..	132	144	117	111	118	144	130.9	122.0
February ..	..	..	135	139	114	110	115	138	130.0	121.0
March ..	..	..	131	140	114	110	116	137	128.6	119.6
April ..	..	..	129	144	116	111	115	137	129.5	120.4
May ..	..	..	130	145	116	111	114	145	130.6	121.3
June ..	..	..	130	149	116	111	114	138	131.1	121.6
1940—41—										
July ..	..	..	131	142	116	110	116	138	129.6	120.4
August ..	..	..	130	140	114	111	112	137	128.3	118.8
September ..	..	..	129	142	113	111	113	137	128.4	118.8
October ..	..	..	130	143	113	111	110	138	128.9	119.2

A comparison of employment in retail stores in October, 1940 (the latest month for which figures are available for all States) with October, 1939, shows the following estimated percentage changes:—New South Wales, nil; Victoria, +1.4; Queensland, -0.9; South Australia, +1.8; Western Australia, -0.9; Tasmania, +2.2; Australia, +0.6 (or, taking account of the growth of employee population, -0.4).

TRADE UNION UNEMPLOYMENT RETURNS.

The only regular records of unemployment available in comparable form over a considerable period are the quarterly percentages reported by trade unions to the Commonwealth Statistician. The membership of the reporting unions consists predominantly of males, and represents at present about 54 per cent. of the total trade union membership and about 20 per cent. of all wage and salary earners.

The percentages stated for New South Wales and Queensland differ from those given on previous pages partly because of differences in the field of employment covered, and partly because the trade union returns relate only to the position as it is known to the unions.

Period.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
1928-29	10.6	9.7	7.0	14.6	9.1	13.0	10.2
1932-33	31.2	24.8	17.4	32.0	28.0	21.8	27.5
1933-34	26.7	19.8	13.8	28.3	21.0	17.9	22.7
1934-35	23.6	15.7	9.8	22.0	15.7	15.9	18.9
1935-36	17.4	11.9	8.3	13.6	11.0	10.9	14.0
1936-37	12.8	10.1	7.4	9.4	6.0	8.4	10.6
1937-38	10.0	8.2	6.9	7.3	5.4	6.8	8.5
1938-39	10.3	10.0	6.0	9.4	6.5	8.9	9.3
1939-40	12.1	8.3	6.1	8.8	6.8	6.3	9.4
1938—							
August	10.0	9.7	6.3	10.0	6.1	8.5	9.2
November	10.1	9.0	5.7	8.8	6.5	10.2	8.9
1939—							
February	10.6	10.8	6.1	9.3	7.3	7.6	9.6
May	10.6	10.4	5.7	9.5	6.2	9.4	9.5
August	11.6	11.2	5.8	9.4	8.2	8.3	10.2
November	11.1	9.0	5.8	9.1	6.6	7.1	9.3
1940—							
February	9.7	6.5	5.8	8.5	6.9	4.8	7.9
May (a)	15.9	6.6	6.8	8.3	5.6	5.0	10.5
August	9.8	5.9	4.9	6.6	6.0	4.6	7.4

(a) In any consideration of the percentages for this quarter, it should be borne in mind that, although coal-mining employees out of work during the period of collection owing to the industrial dispute in that industry have been excluded from the tabulation, persons in other industries indirectly affected by the dispute have been included.

INDUSTRIAL GROUPS: CHANGE FROM MAY, 1940, TO AUGUST, 1940.

Manufacturing—I. Wood, furniture, &c., 6.3% to 4.9%; II. Engineering, metal works, &c., 12.9% to 4.4%; III. Food, drink and tobacco, &c., 18.6% to 17.5%; IV. Clothing, hats, boots, &c., 12.1% to 7.1%; V. Books, printing, &c., 4.6% to 5.1%; VI. Other Manufacturing, 6.6% to 7.5%; VII. Building, 8.8% to 6.8%; VIII. Mining, quarrying, &c., 10.6% to 9.4%; X. Land Transport, other than railway and tramway services, 6.8% to 6.9%; IX., XI., XII., XIII. and XIV. Other and Miscellaneous, 9.6% to 7.3%; All Groups, 10.5% to 7.4%.

BALANCE OF OVERSEA TRADE.

In the following table the oversea trade of the Commonwealth in physical commodities has been set out in a form which distinguishes between the ordinary trade in commodities other than gold, those movements of gold which may be regarded as resulting from current Australian production, and those movements of gold which cannot be attributed to the fact that Australia is a gold-producing country. The balance of trade on "current" account (that is, including credits from gold produced rather than gold exported) is given in columns D and E. The total balance of trade, as officially recorded, is given by the total of columns D and F.

Out of the credits mentioned above, together with those accruing from other "invisible" sources and existing balances of "oversea funds", Australia has to provide for various recurrent charges incurred overseas, and some payments of a capital nature. Chief among the former are the oversea interest commitments of the Australian Governments and other public bodies, which for the present trade year are estimated at approximately £22,000,000 sterling.

£'000 Sterling.

Period.	Merchandise and Silver.		Gold.		Net Credits from Current Items.		Gold.
	Imports.	Exports.	Current Production.	Excess of Exports and Gold Production over Imports.	Progressive totals from 1st July.	Net Exports in excess of current Production.	
	A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	
1928-29	143,300	138,629	1,860	-2,811	..	779	
1932-33	56,872	78,803	4,606	26,537	..	12,302	
1933-34	59,502	91,162	5,671	37,331	..	978	
1934-35	72,440	82,562	5,891	16,013	..	522	
1935-36	83,617	99,121	7,358	22,862	..	1,258	
1936-37	90,642	118,300	9,026	36,684	..	340	
1937-38	111,782	112,688	10,227	11,133	..	730	
1938-39	99,384	97,529	11,668	9,813	..	232	
1939-40	115,716	119,253	14,092	17,629	..	(b)	
1939-40—							
July	8,859	6,663	957	-1,239	-1,239	- 69	
August	9,202	6,483	1,084	-1,635	-2,874	378	
September	6,828	6,565	1,512	1,249	-1,625	- 870	
October	7,340	8,256	1,089	2,005	380	(b)	
November	7,388	13,221	1,213	7,046	7,426	(b)	
December	7,692	12,063	1,307	5,678	13,104	(b)	
January	11,486	11,584	1,112	1,210	14,314	(b)	
February	13,898	11,897	1,097	— 904	13,410	(b)	
March	9,635	10,133	1,191	1,689	15,099	(b)	
April	12,236	11,142	1,152	58	15,157	(b)	
May	10,854	11,873	1,202	2,221	17,378	(b)	
June	10,298	9,373	1,176	251	17,629	(b)	
1940-41(a)—							
July	12,630	9,302	1,057	-2,271	-2,271	(b)	
August	8,761	8,543	1,170	952	-1,319	(b)	
September	8,924	7,687	1,126	— 111	-1,430	(b)	
October	9,595	8,464	1,367	236	-1,194	(b)	

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Not available for publication.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES.

£'000 Sterling.

Producers' Materials for use in—											Fuels and Lubricants.	
Period.	Building and Construction.		Rural Industries.		Manufacturing.		Total.					
	Class Ia.		Class Ib.		Class Ic.		Class I.		Class II.			
		%		%		%		%			%	%
1928-29 ..	10,192	7.1	1,906	1.3	53,147	37.1	65,245	45.5	9,543	6.7		
1932-33 ..	1,903	3.3	955	1.7	27,227	47.9	30,085	52.9	5,065	8.9		
1933-34 ..	2,367	4.0	873	1.4	26,559	44.7	29,799	50.1	4,379	7.4		
1934-35 ..	3,358	4.6	976	1.3	31,609	43.7	35,943	49.6	4,421	6.1		
1935-36 ..	3,928	4.7	1,261	1.5	34,050	40.8	39,239	47.0	5,636	6.7		
1936-37 ..	3,653	4.0	1,498	1.7	36,160	39.9	41,311	45.6	6,537	7.2		
1937-38 ..	4,966	4.4	1,627	1.5	45,104	40.2	51,697	46.1	8,255	7.4		
1938-39 ..	4,054	4.1	1,801	1.8	37,878	38.2	43,733	44.1	7,744	7.8		
1939-40 ..	4,014	3.5	1,601	1.4	47,901	41.4	53,516	46.3	11,008	9.5		
1938-39—												
October..	342	4.2	123	1.5	3,063	37.3	3,528	43.0	588	7.2		
November	391	4.5	182	2.0	3,373	38.5	3,946	45.0	635	7.2		
December	307	4.0	190	2.5	2,873	37.4	3,370	43.9	630	8.2		
January ..	336	4.1	151	1.8	3,121	37.9	3,608	43.8	762	9.3		
February	361	4.4	139	1.7	3,095	37.8	3,595	43.9	702	8.6		
March ..	329	3.8	112	1.3	3,165	36.5	3,606	41.6	668	7.9		
April ..	266	3.9	118	1.8	2,420	35.6	2,804	41.3	661	9.7		
May ..	289	3.1	168	2.0	3,282	39.1	3,739	44.5	672	8.0		
June ..	318	3.8	166	2.0	3,335	40.1	3,819	45.9	622	7.5		
1939-40—												
July ..	288	3.3	177	2.0	3,617	40.8	4,082	46.1	734	8.2		
August ..	351	3.8	154	1.7	3,722	40.4	4,227	45.9	649	7.1		
September	243	3.6	91	1.3	2,638	38.6	2,972	43.5	782	11.5		
October..	255	3.5	145	2.0	2,642	36.0	3,042	41.5	820	11.2		
November	274	3.7	145	2.0	3,118	42.2	3,537	47.9	585	7.9		
December	275	3.6	110	1.4	2,844	36.9	3,229	41.9	839	10.9		
January ..	403	3.5	160	1.4	4,805	41.9	5,368	46.8	1,142	9.9		
February	494	3.6	114	0.8	5,580	40.1	6,188	44.5	1,421	10.2		
March ..	325	3.4	102	1.1	3,913	40.6	4,340	45.1	764	7.9		
April ..	410	3.4	112	0.9	5,214	42.6	5,736	46.9	1,135	9.3		
May ..	357	3.3	165	1.5	5,040	46.4	5,562	51.2	1,112	10.2		
June ..	339	3.3	126	1.2	4,768	46.3	5,233	50.8	1,025	10.0		
1940-41 (a)—												
July ..	371	2.9	162	1.3	5,486	43.5	6,019	47.7	787	6.2		
August ..	254	2.9	85	1.0	4,276	48.8	4,615	52.7	647	7.4		
September	213	2.4	56	0.6	4,400	49.3	4,669	52.3	624	7.0		
October..	174	1.8	76	0.8	4,352	45.4	4,602	48.0	701	7.3		

(a) Subject to revision.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : ECONOMIC CLASSES—*continued.*

£'000 Sterling.

£ 000 Sterling.														
Capital Equipment.														
Period.	Producers' Equipment.		Transport Equipment.				Food, Beverages and Tobacco.	Clothing and Accessories.	All other.	Total.				
			Road Vehicles and complete parts.		Railway equipment, vessels and civil aircraft.									
	Class IV.		Class Va.		Class V. A, C, D.									Class VI. A, B, C.
		%		%		%		%		%		%		%
1928-29 ..	12,077	8.4	15,216	10.6	1,343	0.9	10,606	7.4	2,925	2.1	20,937	14.6	34,468	24.1
1932-33 ..	3,110	5.5	2,159	3.8	530	1.0	3,445	6.0	152	0.3	7,735	13.6	11,332	19.9
1933-34 ..	3,947	6.6	3,820	6.4	529	0.9	4,550	7.7	252	0.4	8,099	13.6	12,901	21.7
1934-35 ..	5,811	8.0	6,149	8.5	972	1.3	4,752	6.6	358	0.5	10,131	14.0	15,241	21.1
1935-36 ..	7,909	9.5	8,613	10.3	702	0.8	4,720	5.7	434	0.5	11,613	13.9	16,767	20.1
1936-37 ..	9,301	10.3	9,183	10.2	1,536	1.7	5,427	6.0	486	0.5	12,180	13.4	18,093	19.9
1937-38 ..	12,090	10.9	12,218	11.0	2,156	1.9	5,589	5.0	711	0.6	13,680	12.3	19,980	17.9
1938-39 ..	11,621	11.7	9,467	9.5	1,252	1.3	5,934	6.0	889	0.9	12,806	12.9	19,629	19.8
1939-40 ..	10,142	8.8	8,297	7.2	840	0.7	6,597	5.7	884	0.8	13,795	11.9	21,276	18.4
1938-39—														
October ..	891	10.9	701	8.5	200	2.4	490	6.0	67	0.8	1,188	14.5	1,745	21.3
November ..	998	11.4	639	7.3	81	0.9	561	6.4	46	0.5	1,147	13.1	1,754	20.0
December ..	945	12.3	629	8.2	76	1.0	487	6.3	59	0.8	1,009	13.2	1,555	20.3
January ..	1,007	12.2	801	9.7	59	0.7	451	5.5	89	1.1	994	12.1	1,534	18.7
February ..	827	10.0	866	10.6	65	0.8	548	6.7	132	1.6	956	11.7	1,636	20.0
March ..	968	11.2	912	10.5	281	3.3	469	5.4	118	1.4	964	11.1	1,551	17.9
April ..	816	12.0	769	11.3	24	0.4	468	6.9	62	0.9	847	12.5	1,377	20.3
May ..	932	11.1	848	10.1	181	2.2	504	6.0	57	0.7	954	11.3	1,515	18.0
June ..	984	11.8	668	8.0	30	0.4	513	6.2	61	0.7	1,134	13.6	1,708	20.5
1939-40—														
July ..	991	11.2	876	9.9	46	0.5	417	4.7	98	1.1	1,149	13.0	1,664	18.8
August ..	986	10.7	834	9.1	75	0.8	528	5.7	131	1.4	1,327	14.4	1,986	21.5
September ..	710	10.5	556	8.1	21	0.3	394	5.8	61	0.9	978	14.3	1,433	21.0
October ..	709	9.7	550	7.5	29	0.4	595	8.1	60	0.8	984	13.4	1,639	22.3
November ..	603	8.2	379	5.1	20	0.3	579	7.8	39	0.5	911	12.4	1,529	20.7
December ..	666	8.9	439	5.7	31	0.4	732	9.5	48	0.6	938	12.2	1,718	22.3
January ..	977	8.5	866	7.5	90	0.8	752	6.6	76	0.7	1,373	11.9	2,201	19.2
February ..	1,106	8.0	1,081	7.8	92	0.7	687	5.0	108	0.8	1,518	10.9	2,313	16.7
March ..	789	8.2	832	8.6	30	0.3	512	5.3	96	1.0	943	9.8	1,551	16.1
April ..	948	7.8	963	7.9	183	1.5	575	4.7	81	0.6	1,416	11.6	2,072	16.9
May ..	849	7.9	545	5.0	82	0.8	487	4.5	51	0.5	1,182	10.9	1,720	15.9
June ..	808	7.8	376	3.7	141	1.4	339	3.3	35	0.3	1,076	10.5	1,450	14.1
1940-41 (a)—														
July ..	1,080	8.6	607	4.8	122	1.0	498	3.9	65	0.5	1,532	12.1	2,095	16.5
August ..	831	9.5	415	4.7	77	0.9	333	3.8	49	0.6	1,090	12.5	1,472	16.9
September ..	752	8.4	756	8.5	94	1.1	338	3.8	56	0.6	822	9.2	1,216	13.6
October ..	759	7.9	740	7.7	176	1.8	459	4.8	39	0.4	848	8.8	1,346	14.0

(a) Subject to revision.

IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : DEGREE OF MANUFACTURE.

£'000 Sterling.

Period.	Producers' Materials (Class I.).			Finished Consumers' Goods (Class VI.).			Total Imports of Merchandise (All Classes).			
	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Crude.	Simply transformed.	Elaborately transformed.	Total.
1928-29	15,198	5,252	44,794	906	5,176	28,386	16,104	20,226	106,951	143,281
1932-33	6,141	2,898	21,046	347	1,844	9,141	6,488	11,376	38,979	56,843
1933-34	6,353	2,921	20,525	345	2,752	9,804	6,698	11,632	41,105	59,435
1934-35	8,028	3,555	24,361	411	2,726	12,104	8,439	12,626	51,356	72,421
1935-36	9,612	3,552	26,075	226	2,733	13,808	9,838	14,064	59,619	83,521
1936-37	10,778	3,922	26,610	477	3,190	14,427	11,255	15,845	63,492	90,592
1937-38	13,061	4,723	33,913	501	3,162	16,317	13,562	18,903	79,268	111,733
1938-39	11,581	3,692	28,459	576	3,258	15,794	12,157	17,127	70,029	99,313
1939-40	13,402	5,400	34,713	582	3,750	16,944	13,984	22,968	78,724	115,676
1938-39—										
October	909	298	2,321	37	292	1,415	946	1,385	5,871	8,202
November	1,033	304	2,609	39	292	1,422	1,072	1,452	6,244	8,768
December	892	238	2,239	28	293	1,235	920	1,347	5,407	7,674
January	963	307	2,339	35	198	1,301	998	1,498	5,737	8,233
February	952	269	2,373	53	302	1,282	1,005	1,485	5,702	8,192
March	1,117	268	2,221	71	236	1,244	1,188	1,420	6,064	8,672
April	819	317	1,668	54	251	1,072	873	1,398	4,521	6,792
May	1,153	316	2,270	101	250	1,164	1,254	1,422	5,728	8,404
June	876	375	2,567	45	269	1,394	921	1,468	5,936	8,325
1939-40—										
July	1,033	280	2,769	47	264	1,352	1,080	1,488	6,288	8,856
August	1,017	386	2,824	58	343	1,585	1,075	1,616	6,510	9,201
September	805	292	1,875	47	227	1,160	852	1,456	4,518	6,826
October	1,046	294	1,702	62	326	1,251	1,108	1,605	4,618	7,331
November	1,164	297	2,077	37	339	1,152	1,201	1,439	4,745	7,385
December	832	329	2,069	48	491	1,180	880	1,862	4,947	7,689
January	1,158	563	3,646	48	354	1,799	1,206	2,333	7,942	11,481
February	1,517	601	4,071	48	383	1,882	1,565	2,734	9,596	13,895
March	1,182	455	2,702	51	334	1,166	1,233	1,798	6,602	9,633
April	1,154	602	3,980	34	293	1,744	1,188	2,332	8,714	12,234
May	1,380	590	3,592	61	243	1,416	1,441	2,211	7,198	10,850
June	1,114	711	3,406	41	153	1,257	1,155	2,094	7,046	10,295
1940-41(a)—										
July	1,112	589	4,319	40	273	1,782	1,152	1,930	9,544	12,626
August	967	502	3,146	42	191	1,240	1,009	1,541	6,201	8,751
September	865	934	2,870	53	213	950	918	1,963	6,036	8,917
October	824	610	3,167	66	297	983	890	1,829	6,872	9,591

NOTE.—Class II. consists entirely of goods "simply transformed", and Classes IV., V. and VII. entirely of goods "more elaborately transformed". Class III. is about equally divided between goods "simply" and "more elaborately transformed".

(a) Subject to revision.

EXPORTS OF MERCHANDISE : PRINCIPAL COMMODITIES.

£'000 Australian Currency.

Period.	Wool.	Wheat and Flour.	Butter.	Sugar.	Meats.	Hides and Skins.	Lead.	Dried Fruits.	Fresh Fruits.	Total Merchandise and Silver.
1928-29	61,615	26,335	7,159	2,375	6,342	9,291	3,250	2,301	943	138,631
1932-33	36,408	21,954	8,940	1,812	6,001	2,369	2,388	2,231	2,418	98,720
1933-34	57,126	12,141	8,194	2,859	7,097	4,391	2,421	2,652	2,012	114,430
1934-35	39,266	16,220	9,587	2,735	8,847	3,506	2,417	2,166	1,822	103,707
1935-36	52,346	18,571	9,833	2,761	8,754	5,650	3,849	1,987	2,027	124,436
1936-37	62,505	24,352	8,802	3,710	10,332	7,302	4,853	2,060	1,980	148,490
1937-38	46,984	26,939	10,781	3,991	12,253	6,190	4,914	2,684	2,055	141,668
1938-39	42,737	13,275	12,892	4,178	11,780	4,104	4,276	2,865	2,023	122,543
1939-40	56,903	12,789	15,895	6,186	15,120	4,167	(b)	1,994	1,167	149,674
1938-39—										
October	4,184	755	1,234	820	1,363	443	370	283	41	11,582
November	6,359	528	1,485	634	1,875	467	452	96	38	14,157
December	5,822	781	1,586	844	1,357	461	280	29	14	13,245
January	2,924	1,232	1,328	220	936	258	296	15	4	9,163
February	4,928	1,287	727	7	1,057	273	451	21	60	10,676
March	4,967	1,184	936	1	794	277	365	141	507	11,307
April	2,890	1,116	908	2	503	186	321	635	567	8,606
May	2,369	1,200	1,468	3	664	263	433	582	515	10,064
June	1,962	1,185	1,019	1	764	231	268	255	144	7,903
1939-40—										
July	2,372	746	916	413	934	309	181	164	95	8,378
August	1,248	541	849	776	976	406	340	214	35	8,230
September	721	413	1,159	920	1,311	375	462	164	28	8,236
October	1,083	705	1,462	913	2,009	612	473	54	31	10,347
November	7,395	826	1,800	662	2,520	331	491	11	37	16,621
December	7,232	471	2,145	469	1,695	449	513	2	15	15,119
January	6,451	913	2,432	676	1,086	383	427	4	5	14,532
February	7,432	1,123	1,660	329	811	533	538	6	50	14,909
March	5,639	1,418	1,330	633	638	184	217	35	219	12,691
April	6,639	1,435	1,060	96	783	193	(b)	305	262	13,986
May	6,484	2,035	680	255	1,053	222	(b)	583	171	14,880
June	4,207	2,163	402	44	1,304	170	(b)	452	219	11,745
1940-41(a)—										
July	3,216	2,384	334	219	1,374	421	(b)	618	48	11,651
August	2,533	1,367	338	1,021	1,695	515	(b)	520	34	10,700
September	2,360	1,454	440	859	1,008	393	(b)	116	30	9,628
October	2,854	1,241	980	481	1,416	349	(b)	171	35	10,601

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Not available for publication.

EXPORT PRICES AND EXPORT PRICE INDEX.

The following table shows the course of prices of seven of the more important Australian export commodities. The quotations are for units of standard grade, and hence do not reflect variations in the grades or qualities of the goods actually exported in each month. Index-numbers of the average level of export prices are included. They are compiled from the prices of 20 commodities, which constitute about 85 per cent. of all exports.

Monthly Weighted Averages.	Export Parities—Australian Currency.							General Export Price Index.	
	Wool (Greasy standard). (a)	Wheat (shippers' limits).	Butter (choicest salted).	Sugar (raw).	Beef (crops and hinds).	Lamb (average of three qualities).	Lead.	Excluding Gold.	Including Gold.
	d. per lb.	d. per bus.	per cwt.	£ per ton.	d. per lb.	d. per lb.	£ per ton.	1928-29 = 1,000.	
1928-29	16.58	55.49	159.6	11.63	4.00	7.20	21.01	1,000	1,000
1932-33	8.38	33.75	92.8	9.65	2.68	4.34	12.72	579	601
1933-34	14.56	33.00	80.7	9.16	2.59	6.26	13.07	796	764
1934-35	9.45	34.94	81.7	8.61	3.05	6.27	12.40	615	642
1935-36	13.36	41.81	105.6	8.82	3.13	7.13	18.94	782	806
1936-37	16.39	60.00	112.5	9.71	3.47	6.94	27.27	959	975
1937-38	12.76	50.26	134.4	9.57	4.01	7.42	20.00	850	871
1938-39	10.50	31.08	125.8	9.25	3.68	6.87	17.22	681	711
1939-40	12.93	38.67	134.8	11.77	4.09	6.57	18.72	800	835
1938-39—									
October	10.6	33.58	124.0	8.82	3.80	7.31	18.51	693	723
November	10.7	30.34	115.0	9.38	3.76	7.19	18.67	679	711
December	10.5	28.96	119.0	9.88	3.68	7.00	17.48	668	701
January	10.5	29.00	134.0	10.05	3.62	6.44	16.77	676	707
February	10.6	29.05	132.0	9.91	3.45	6.05	16.43	674	705
March	10.3	27.19	128.0	10.20	3.36	5.87	16.95	655	688
April	10.0	28.12	126.0	11.14	3.27	5.72	16.52	650	683
May	9.9	30.28	119.0	12.35	3.28	5.58	16.72	649	683
June	10.5	28.68	126.0	11.44	3.33	6.00	16.73	669	702
1939-40—									
July	10.9	26.15	127.0	11.46	3.60	6.30	16.95	679	712
August	(10.9)	24.98	123.0	10.70	3.82	6.30	18.33	674	707
September	12.8	29.93	135.0	11.71	4.16	6.56	18.49	765	803
October	(h)13.4	32.00	137.0	11.94	4.16	6.63	18.59	796	833
November	13.4	d(32.00)	137.0	11.92	4.16	6.63	19.84	799	835
December	13.4	(35.00)	137.0	11.93	4.16	6.63	18.90	807	843
January	13.4	46.50	137.0	11.93	4.16	6.63	19.38	844	879
February	13.4	46.50	137.0	11.93	4.16	6.63	19.04	844	879
March	13.4	47.00	137.0	11.93	4.16	6.63	19.36	846	881
April	13.4	(48.00)	137.0	11.93	4.16	6.63	18.54	847	882
May	13.4	(48.00)	137.0	11.93	4.16	6.63	18.63	848	883
June	13.4	(48.00)	137.0	11.93	4.16	6.63	18.59	849	884
1940-41—									
July	13.4	(48.00)	137.0	(e)12.50	4.16	6.63	18.51	848	882
August	13.4	(47.25)	137.0	(e)12.50	4.16	6.63	18.82	844	879
September	13.4	(47.25)	137.0	(e)12.50	4.16	6.63	18.41	846	881
October	13.4	47.75	137.0	(e)12.50	4.16	6.63	18.27	847	882

(a) Price in store. Cost of carriage from store to wharf is 0.125d. (b) Price fixed under Agreement with the British Government at 13.4375d. per lb., with an additional 0.94d. to cover costs from store to ship and administrative expenses. (c) Price fixed at 13s. 2d. per cwt. f.o.b. Australia. (d) Quotes from November onwards are approximate export prices comparable with those shown for previous months. (e) Approximate.

EXPORT PRICE INDEX (CHANGING BASE).

In computing the monthly index-numbers given on the previous page, the prices are multiplied by the average quantities exported during a fairly recent and representative period. Hence, while they indicate satisfactorily the general trend of the market, they take no account of the relative quantities actually sold at the different prices ruling during each month. In consequence the index-numbers do not give an adequate indication of the significance of the price movements as they actually affected current sales. This is shown more accurately by the index-numbers (inclusive of gold) in the following table, in the computation of which the "quantity-multipliers" are changed each month. The index-numbers are designed solely for comparisons of current prices with those of the corresponding months, or periods of months, of the preceding year.

Base : Weighted Average Price Level in corresponding months of preceding year = 1,000.

Month.	Month stated compared with same month of preceding year.	Period of trade year ending in month stated compared with same period of preceding year.
1938-39—		
October	791	771
November	874	799
December	835	806
January	864	813
February	871	821
March	853	825
April	843	827
May	860	830
June	903	834
1939-40—		
July	936	936
August	967	950
September	1,129	1,013
October	1,136	1,051
November	1,171	1,085
December	1,206	1,111
January	1,224	1,128
February	1,248	1,145
March	1,287	1,160
April	1,294	1,172
May	1,278	1,181
June	1,286	1,188
1940-41—		
July	1,249	1,249
August	1,214	1,232
September	1,086	1,182
October	1,052	1,145

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX.

BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS.

The construction of this new index has been made possible by the collection of new data on prices and consumption. Both in contents and method of computation it differs from the Melbourne Index of General Wholesale Prices. The price quotations have in the main been obtained directly from manufacturers and dealers, and, with a few important exceptions, from Melbourne sources. Apart from home-produced building materials, coal and one or two minor commodities, however, the price movements may be taken as representative of fluctuations in wholesale prices of basic materials in most Australian markets. The weighting system adopted is based on average annual consumption during the years 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

(Base: 1928-29 = 1,000.)

Period.	Metals and Coal.	Oils, Fats and Waxes.	Textiles.	Chemicals.	Rubber and Hides.	Building Materials.	Foodstuffs and Tobacco.	Goods principally Imported.	Goods principally Home Produced.	All Groups.
1928-29 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1932-33 ..	823	1,022	586	976	604	1,000	745	1,066	732	815
1933-34 ..	808	794	792	917	697	991	788	977	755	811
1934-35 ..	766	842	609	840	674	981	816	1,009	749	814
1935-36 ..	725	895	774	816	766	981	857	1,037	776	840
1936-37 ..	758	925	920	814	963	1,044	910	1,088	828	892
1937-38 ..	798	951	776	824	844	1,098	932	1,117	845	911
1938-39 ..	807	944	633	833	806	1,024	961	1,087	862	916
1939-40 ..	827	1,083	806	880	1,013	1,144	936	1,214	859	944
1939-40—										
July ..	815	946	663	835	805	1,013	904	1,077	828	888
August ..	816	944	659	835	825	1,013	894	1,077	821	882
September ..	816	948	787	835	931	1,098	907	1,125	833	902
October ..	816	993	850	835	986	1,099	934	1,157	852	925
November ..	829	1,039	855	835	1,046	1,134	924	1,195	849	931
December ..	829	1,087	842	839	1,085	1,140	920	1,231	844	937
January ..	829	1,096	844	922	1,082	1,139	927	1,234	854	946
February ..	830	1,097	816	923	1,098	1,200	935	1,249	861	955
March ..	833	1,140	834	923	1,089	1,201	951	1,266	875	969
April ..	849	1,152	843	924	1,063	1,203	971	1,275	891	985
May ..	835	1,274	843	924	1,084	1,201	987	1,329	902	1,006
June ..	835	1,279	838	924	1,062	1,287	974	1,352	894	1,006
1940-41—										
July ..	835	1,280	836	1,006	1,052	1,287	976	1,361	897	1,010
August ..	835	1,275	825	(a)1,014	1,050	1,359	993	(a)1,373	911	(a)1,024
September ..	835	1,272	838	(a)1,014	1,051	1,359	999	(a)1,368	917	1,027
October ..	841	1,282	850	1,012	1,059	1,359	1,001	1,398	912	1,030

(a) Revised.

PRIMARY PRODUCTION PRICE INDEXES.

The annual index-numbers in the following table have been recomputed to the base 1928-29 = 1,000 from the revised series published in *Production Bulletin* No. 33. They are based in general on prices realized in the principal markets of the Commonwealth.

The monthly index-numbers (based on the nearest equivalent wholesale quotations) are intended progressively to forecast the point which the annual index-numbers will eventually reach, and to provide a preliminary figure for the latest full year pending the completion of the annual census of production. The preliminary index-numbers will be revised as each production census is completed.

(Base : 1928-29 = 1,000.)

Period.	Agriculture.	Pastoral.	Farmyard and Dairying.	All Farming.	Mining other than Gold. (a)	Gold. (a)	All Groups.
1928-29	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1932-33	679	538	610	597	686	1,718	618
1933-34	675	801	599	722	684	1,817	731
1934-35	749	596	646	655	689	2,002	674
1935-36	803	767	711	768	735	2,062	781
1936-37	950	857	761	870	795	2,039	877
1937-38	850	789	829	817	879	2,045	836
1938-39	770	681	868	745	756	2,075	761
1939-40	767	737	832	764	802	2,289	788
1939-40—							
July	708	633	846	697	797	2,176	724
August	697	622	848	689	808	2,241	720
September ..	735	697	828	734	827	2,484	767
October	780	735	832	768	838	2,484	797
November ..	731	742	832	755	840	2,495	787
December ..	716	746	832	752	838	2,501	784
January	797	748	831	779	864	2,504	809
February ..	779	764	826	780	882	2,509	812
March	794	776	826	791	891	2,510	822
April	827	784	826	805	893	2,510	834
May	821	805	826	814	893	2,510	842
June	819	795	826	809	895	2,507	837
1940-41—							
July	819	801	824	811	894	2,484	837
August	826	817	826	822	896	2,501	848
September ..	847	814	826	827	897	2,510	853
October	840	813	826	824	897	2,519	850
1st 4 months, 1939-40	730	672	839	722	818	2,346	752
1st 4 months, 1940-41	833	811	826	821	896	2,504	847

(a) Year ended December previous.

RETAIL PRICE AND WAGE-RATE INDEXES.

In the tables on this and the following page the index-numbers have been recomputed uniformly to the base 1928-29 = 1,000 in order to facilitate comparisons with other data. The absolute heights of the index-numbers differ, in consequence, from those published elsewhere.

(Base : 1928-29 = 1,000.)

Period.			Retail Price Indexes : Six Capital Cities.					Wage Rate Indexes : Six States.	
			Food and Groceries.	Rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses.	Food, &c. and Rent (B Series).	Clothing and Miscellaneous.	Food, Rent, Clothing and Miscellaneous (C Series).	Nominal Weekly Rates, Adult Males.	"Real" Wages, Adult Males.(a)
1928-29	..	..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1932-33	..	..	753	754	753	858	794	813	1,024
1933-34	..	..	761	752	756	852	794	804	1,013
1934-35	..	..	786	770	780	848	807	816	1,011
1935-36	..	..	807	803	805	850	823	825	1,002
1936-37	..	..	834	838	836	862	846	846	1,000
1937-38	..	..	856	867	860	879	868	897	1,033
1938-39	..	..	908	894	902	884	894	930	1,040
1939-40	..	..	919	907	914	917	913	..	..
1938-39—									
October	..	..	890	891	891	883	887	928	1,046
November	..	..	882						
December	..	..	902						
January	..	..	913	897	915	883	901	930	1,032
February	..	..	939						
March	..	..	930						
April	..	..	931	901	911	886	899	940	1,046
May	..	..	911						
June	..	..	908						
1939-40—									
July	..	..	912	905	909	886	898	944	1,051
August	..	..	910						
September	..	..	914						
October	..	..	928	906	914	901	908	946	1,042
November	..	..	924						
December	..	..	904						
January	..	..	900	908	909	921	912	949	1,041
February	..	..	909						
March	..	..	919						
April	..	..	937	909	925	959	935	955	1,021
May	..	..	936						
June	..	..	936						
1940-41—									
July	..	..	927	910	921	976	940	..	..
August	..	..	927						
September	..	..	934						
October	..	..	943						

(a) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by "C" series index of retail prices.

RETAIL PRICES, HOURS AND BASIC WAGE RATES.

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Six Capitals or Six States.
1939 : September Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	915	900	849	885	886	887	898
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	952	931	967	886	996	886	944
"Real" weekly wage (a) ..	1,040	1,034	1,139	1,001	1,124	999	1,051
Average weekly hours ..	44.00	45.22	43.48	46.14	44.33	45.72	44.56
Federal metrop. basic wage ..	(b) 81/-	81/-	(b) 76/-	78/-	77/-	77/-	79/-
State metrop. basic wage ..	(b) 81/-	(e)	(d) 84/-	78/-	82.2	(e)	..
1939 : December Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	925	914	857	888	881	901	908
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	960	928	967	883	999	888	946
"Real" weekly wage (a) ..	1,038	1,015	1,128	994	1,134	986	1,042
Average weekly hours ..	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.83	44.33	45.33	44.29
Federal metrop. basic wage ..	(c) 82/-	(c) 80/-	76/-	(c) 77/-	77/-	77/-	79/-
State metrop. basic wage ..	(c) 82/-	(e)	84/-	78/-	82.2	(e)	..
1940 : March Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	927	916	870	894	884	900	912
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	962	933	968	884	1,004	903	949
"Real" weekly wage (a) ..	1,038	1,019	1,113	989	1,136	1,003	1,041
Average weekly hours ..	43.92	44.61	43.46	45.75	44.33	45.01	44.27
Federal metrop. basic wage ..	82/-	(f) 81/-	(f) 77/-	77/-	77/-	(f) 78/-	(f) 80/-
State metrop. basic wage ..	82/-	(e)	84/-	78/-	82.2	(e)	..
1940 : June Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	951	944	882	916	914	920	935
Nominal weekly wage (a) ..	971	940	968	888	1,004	904	955
"Real" weekly wage (a) ..	1,021	996	1,098	969	1,098	983	1,021
Average weekly hours ..	43.89	44.48	43.46	45.58	44.12	44.95	44.22
Federal metrop. basic wage ..	(g) 83/-	(g) 82/-	(g) 78/-	(g) 78/-	77/-	78/-	80/-
State metrop. basic wage ..	(g) 83/-	(e)	84/-	78/-	82.2	(e)	..
1940 : September Quarter—							
Retail Prices—"C" Series (a)	954	949	888	921	923	929	940
Federal metrop. basic wage (i)	85/-	84/-	79/-	80/-	79/-	80/-	82/-
State metrop. basic wage ..	(i) 85/-	(e)	84/-	78/-	(h) 85.4	(e)	..
1940 : December Quarter—							
Federal metrop. basic wage ..	85/-	84/-	79/-	80/-	(j) 80/-	(j) 81/-	(f) 83/-
State metrop. basic wage ..	85/-	(e)	84/-	(k) 84/-	85.4	(e)	..

(a) Weighted average Six Capitals or Six States 1928-1929 = 1,000. (b) Payable as from 1st September. (c) Payable as from 1st December. (d) Payable as from 7th August. (e) None declared, but Federal rates followed to a large extent. (f) Payable as from 1st February. (g) Payable as from 1st May. (h) Payable as from 31st July. (i) Payable as from 1st August. (j) Payable as from 1st November. (k) Payable as from 28th November.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES : NEW SOUTH WALES.

In comparing movements in the three sets of index-numbers given below, attention should be paid to differences in the methods by which they have been constructed, and in the nature of the companies and the types of shares included in each index. These are outlined in the footnotes to the tables.

(Base : 1928-29 = 1,000.)

Period.			New South Wales : Ordinary Shares.(a)						
			23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	75 Companies (including 24 Miscel- laneous).	34 Active shares included in foregoing.
1928-29	..	..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1932-33	..	..	680	506	1,024	618	711	640	698
1933-34	..	..	835	684	1,175	828	877	795	851
1934-35	..	..	951	836	1,351	794	1,068	910	956
1935-36	..	..	1,079	967	1,445	824	1,178	1,006	1,070
1936-37	..	..	1,208	1,110	1,419	926	1,209	1,091	1,163
1937-38	..	..	1,235	1,056	1,441	882	1,130	1,077	1,145
1938-39	..	..	1,219	978	1,354	704	1,109	1,035	1,091
1939-40	..	..	1,258	923	1,076	731	1,113	1,020	1,104
1939-40—									
July	..	..	1,257	955	1,270	677	1,126	1,039	1,105
August	..	..	1,245	938	1,236	681	1,131	1,028	1,091
September	..	..	1,223	900	1,201	732	1,100	1,009	1,079
October	..	..	1,254	922	1,188	755	1,104	1,022	1,097
November	..	..	1,289	958	1,166	762	1,119	1,042	1,126
December	..	..	1,302	963	1,184	754	1,124	1,054	1,144
January	..	..	1,342	970	1,204	759	1,157	1,071	1,170
February	..	..	1,305	953	1,162	762	1,154	1,051	1,146
March	..	..	1,271	933	1,121	759	1,129	1,024	1,116
April	..	..	1,277	924	1,088	765	1,117	1,019	1,123
May	..	..	1,232	890	1,093	739	1,091	991	1,091
June	..	..	1,094	772	1,019	632	1,000	888	959
1940-41—									
July	..	..	1,124	770	1,018	604	966	890	973
August	..	..	1,156	836	1,039	646	971	916	1,008
September	..	..	1,213	878	1,058	671	1,007	956	1,058
October	..	..	1,262	918	1,061	679	1,079	992	1,105

(a) Compiled by the New South Wales Government Statistician. The index-numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales. They represent unweighted averages of the mean monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. Adjustments are made where capital is written off or bonus shares issued. Recomputed from original base, par values.

SECURITY PRICE INDEXES: MELBOURNE AND QUEENSLAND.

(Base: 1928-29 = 1,000.)

Period.	Melbourne Stock Exchange (a)				Queensland: Ordinary Shares (b)		
	32 Ordinary Shares.	15 Preference Shares.	9 Bank Shares.	4 Silverlead Shares.	12 Industrials.	12 Financial and Trading.	24 Total of foregoing
1928-29	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1932-33	747	1,124	618	693	763	773	767
1933-34	895	1,235	692	908	913	884	899
1934-35	980	1,333	650	1,017	977	925	952
1935-36	1,098	1,277	702	1,542	1,028	935	982
1936-37	1,303	1,239	749	2,554	1,053	937	996
1937-38	1,247	1,242	686	2,222	1,062	947	1,006
1938-39	1,171	1,246	624	1,764	1,026	926	978
1939-40	(c)	1,151	558	1,615	1,068	861	967
1939-40—							
July	1,232	1,183	573	1,633	1,048	912	981
August	1,215	1,153	561	1,595	1,065	908	989
September ..	1,225	1,128	534	1,733	1,063	862	965
October	(c)	(d) 1,102	535	1,470	1,057	845	954
November ..	(c)	1,129	553	1,677	1,070	845	960
December ..	(c)	1,143	552	1,772	1,100	848	977
January	(c)	1,144	559	1,781	1,110	854	985
February ..	(c)	1,153	584	1,748	1,087	867	979
March	(c)	1,167	577	1,649	1,072	862	970
April	(c)	1,193	578	1,680	1,075	854	967
May	(c)	1,207	572	1,449	1,079	859	973
June	(c)	1,120	517	1,193	984	817	903
1940-41—							
July	(c)	1,101	517	1,221	985	822	896
August	(c)	1,113	499	1,371	1,014	792	906
September ..	(c)	1,159	520	1,427	1,044	811	930
October	(c)	1,188	541	1,505	1,063	823	946

(a) Compiled by the Stock Exchange of Melbourne. The index-numbers of ordinary shares are based on the prices of the shares of companies whose business is more or less national in character. They represent averages (weighted by paid-up capital, with adjustments in the case of bank shares) of the mean monthly prices on the Melbourne Stock Exchange. The preference share index-numbers are based on the reciprocals of average yields. Recomputed from original base, May, 1926. (b) Compiled by the Queensland Bureau of Industry. The index-numbers are based on the prices of the ordinary shares of 21 representative Queensland companies, and the preference shares of three companies whose ordinary shares are inactive. The index-numbers represent unweighted averages. End-of-month values were used until December, 1930, and mean monthly values thereafter. Recomputed from original base, April, 1928. (c) Not compiled. (d) Revised.

BUILDING PERMITS: METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL.

£'000.

		£ 000.						
		Recorded Value of "All Building Operations " in—						
Monthly Averages.		Common-wealth.	New South Wales.			Victoria.		
		Maximum comparable total (excludes G, J and L).	Metropolis.	Country Municipalities.	7 Shires near Sydney.	Metropolis.	6 Provincial Municipalities.	4 Provincial Municipalities.
		A.	B.	C.	D.	E.	F.	G.
1928-29	..	3,103	1,415	329	79	638	19	..
1932-33	..	711	189	87	21	214	9	..
1933-34	..	1,131	345	137	32	352	13	..
1934-35	..	1,775	636	223	43	467	14	..
1935-36	..	2,263	782	312	49	597	21	..
1936-37	..	2,507	848	362	54	667	29	33
1937-38	..	2,939	1,093	423	83	669	38	40
1938-39	..	2,971	1,111	404	91	702	33	26
1939-40	..	2,704	953	325	96	729	33	32
Quarters ended—								
1938-39—								
September ..		3,319	1,351	459	102	712	51	28
December ..		2,775	1,064	395	89	644	27	32
March ..		2,815	952	389	77	763	27	23
June ..		2,976	1,077	375	97	691	28	23
1939-40—								
September ..		3,027	1,177	356	99	739	40	45
December ..		2,524	868	301	93	634	31	25
March ..		2,499	775	307	88	791	37	30
June ..		2,768	993	338	102	754	23	29
1940-41—								
September ..		2,752	948	302	97	784	24	15
Months of—								
1940-41—								
August ..	..	..	956	..	..	720	..	..
September ..	..	..	840	..	..	818	..	..
October ..	..	..	833	..	..	755	..	..

NOTES.

A. This column is the total of all series available continuously since 1928-29 for which information is at present collected at least quarterly. Columns G above and J on the next page are omitted as the information is not available for the earlier years, and column L on the next page is omitted because quarterly figures are not available.

F. Includes the Cities of Geelong West, Mildura and Warrnambool and the Towns of Horsham, Newtown and Chilwell, and Syle.

G. Includes the Cities of Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong, and Shepparton Borough.

BUILDING PERMITS : METROPOLITAN AND PROVINCIAL—continued.

£'000.

Monthly Averages.	Recorded Value of "All Building Operations" in—						
	Queensland.			South Australia.		Western Australia.	Tasmania.
	Metropolis.	11 Provincial Cities.	9 Provincial Towns.	Metropolis.	Country Municipalities.	Metropolis.	Metropolis.
	H.	I.	J.	K.	L.	M.	N.
1928-29 ..	195	55	..	151	34	210	12
1932-33 ..	59	29	..	33	18	61	9
1933-34 ..	69	36	..	51	25	82	14
1934-35 ..	107	58	..	97	23	113	17
1935-36 ..	176	66	21	103	34	135	22
1936-37 ..	153	76	22	118	33	168	32
1937-38 ..	167	88	26	173	42	174	31
1938-39 ..	171	90	28	192	41	145	32
1939-40 ..	150	89	19	168	41(a)	126	35
Quarters ended—							
1938-39—							
September ..	196	85	25	178	..	154	31
December ..	133	97	40	150	..	144	32
March ..	188	83	26	161	..	138	37
June ..	166	93	21	277	..	146	26
1939-40—							
September ..	170	97	20	172	..	135	42
December ..	153	85	20	185	..	124	50
March ..	125	79	17	164	..	114	19
June ..	150	95	19	152	..	133	28
1940-41—							
September ..	184	95	35	168	..	115	35
Months of—							
1940-41—							
August ..	145	94	17	197	..	122	35
September ..	130	98	16	142	..	122	35
October ..	159	66	26	187	..	137	17

(a) Subject to revision.

NOTES.

I. The Cities included are Bundaberg, Cairns, Charters Towers, Gympie, Ipswich, Mackay, Maryborough, Rockhampton, Toowoomba, Townsville, and Warwick.

J. The Towns included are Bowen, Charleville, Dalby, Innisfail, Longreach, Redcliffe, Roma, Southport, and Stanthorpe.

L. The figures relate to financial years as follows :—For Corporations, years ended 30th November up to and including 1934, seven months ended 30th June, 1935, and years ended 30th June, thereafter. For District Councils, years ended 30th June.

BUILDING PERMITS : SIX CAPITAL CITIES AND SUBURBS.(a)

Monthly Averages.		New Dwellings.		Other New Buildings.		Total New Buildings.		Alterations and Additions.	All Building Operations.
		Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Number.	Value.	Value.	Value.
			£'000.		£'000.		£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1928-29(b)	..	1,619	1,549	446	605	2,065	2,154	467	2,621
1932-33	..	293	266	220	122	513	388	177	565
1933-34	..	499	510	107	174	606	684	229	913
1934-35	..	762	796	137	300	899	1,096	340	1,436
1935-36	..	1,026	1,028	164	416	1,190	1,444	371	1,815
1936-37	..	1,122	1,104	154	474	1,276	1,578	408	1,986
1937-38	..	1,394	1,413	147	472	1,541	1,885	422	2,307
1938-39	..	1,463	1,509	137	424	1,600	1,933	420	2,353
1939-40	..	1,367	1,440	123	382	1,490	1,822	339	2,161
1938-39—									
October..	..	1,471	1,504	122	207	1,593	1,711	307	2,018
November	..	1,422	1,647	146	651	1,568	2,298	416	2,714
December	..	1,054	1,143	94	324	1,148	1,467	302	1,769
January..	..	1,273	1,153	119	328	1,392	1,481	426	1,907
February	..	1,441	1,428	121	233	1,562	1,661	582	2,243
March ..	..	1,494	1,508	158	469	1,652	1,977	587	2,564
April ..	..	1,207	1,212	111	527	1,318	1,739	292	2,031
May ..	..	1,564	1,493	148	553	1,712	2,046	456	2,502
June ..	..	1,668	1,827	152	359	1,820	2,186	429	2,615
1939-40—									
July ..	..	1,634	1,842	152	639	1,786	2,481	354	2,835
August ..	..	1,770	1,777	145	380	1,915	2,157	505	2,662
September	..	1,057	1,060	129	382	1,186	1,442	365	1,807
October..	..	1,374	1,512	169	765	1,543	2,277	342	2,619
November	..	1,292	1,359	123	341	1,415	1,700	231	1,931
December	..	912	964	98	278	1,010	1,242	247	1,489
January ..	..	1,178	1,132	112	258	1,290	1,390	277	1,667
February	..	1,390	1,411	118	400	1,508	1,811	300	2,111
March ..	..	1,243	1,428	108	481	1,351	1,909	276	2,185
April ..	..	1,625	1,597	117	285	1,742	1,882	412	2,294
May ..	..	1,656	1,703	113	213	1,769	1,916	388	2,304
June ..	..	1,276	1,498	90	163	1,366	1,661	369	2,030
1940-41—									
July ..	..	1,475	1,603	130	421	1,605	2,024	412	2,436
August ..	..	1,429	1,523	82	220	1,511	1,743	432	2,175
September	..	1,410	1,478	87	283	1,497	1,761	326	2,087
October..	..	1,443	1,511	99	196	1,542	1,707	381	2,088

(a) Excludes Government buildings.

(b) Partly estimated in respect of the City of Sydney.

MISCELLANEOUS INDEXES OF PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITY.

The following table gives particulars of the physical quantity of production of certain items which are at present available on a monthly basis. Efforts are being made to extend the field of monthly production statistics.

Monthly Averages.	Metals.				Butter.	Electricity and Gas.	
	Pig Iron : Index of Production. (a)	Ingot Steel : Index of Production. (a)	Zinc, refined : Index of Production.	Gold Produced.	Factory Production.	Melbourne : Energy supplied for all purposes except traction. (b)	Sydney : Index of Sales of Gas and Electricity.
	1928-29 = 1,000.	1928-29 = 1,000.	1928-29 = 1,000.	Fine oz.	'000 lb.	Millions of K.W.H.	(c)
1928-29	1,000	1,000	1,000	36,496	22,796	..	..
1932-33	729	907	839	64,034	33,222	30.9	97
1933-34	1,057	1,198	831	72,680	35,753	33.9	100
1934-35	1,515	1,610	915	70,381	37,247	37.9	104
1935-36	1,699	1,896	1,100	88,280	34,232	40.9	111
1936-37	1,981	2,481	1,089	108,173	31,154	44.0	115
1937-38	2,016	2,678	1,084	123,274	34,143	48.0	121
1938-39	2,396	2,704	1,085	134,160	36,360	50.3	126
1939-40	(d)	(d)	(d)	e140,357	38,035	55.7	134
1939-40—			(f)	(e)			
July	3,047	3,283	1,099	129,710	27,214	61.6	134
August	3,119	3,341	1,145	142,680	31,226	59.7	135
September ..	3,070	3,360	1,145	179,511	38,320	54.5	134
October	2,951	3,374	1,144	129,310	47,621	54.6	135
November ..	3,059	3,374	1,132	143,338	51,773	53.3	136
December ..	2,910	3,164	1,128	154,091	53,134	46.5	131
January	2,895	3,295	1,119	e131,009	49,493	51.5	136
February ..	2,951	3,538	1,113	e128,927	41,613	51.2	135
March	2,209	2,786	(d)	e139,857	37,588	51.5	130
April	(d)	(d)	(d)	e135,332	32,264	55.2	137
May	(d)	(d)	(d)	e141,141	25,838	65.5	128
June	(d)	(d)	(d)	e138,250	20,333	62.7	135
1940-41—							
July	(d)	(d)	(d)	e125,440	22,596	68.9	139
August	(d)	(d)	(d)	e137,873	26,303	63.8	137
September ..	(d)	(d)	(d)	e132,300	32,649	62.7	134
October	(d)	(d)	(d)	e160,000	..	59.4	137

(a) Revised series, now based throughout on total production for each month is the average sales in the corresponding months of the three years 1929 to 1931; i.e. seasonal variations are removed. Based on units of 3,412 B.Th.U. (d) Not available for publication (e) Subject to revision (f) Estimated on the basis of production by the Electrolytic Zinc Company Ltd.

MAINLAND STATE RAILWAYS : FREIGHT, PASSENGERS AND REVENUE.

The following table shows statistics of freight and passengers carried and of revenue earned on the five Mainland State Railways.

The daily average number of passenger journeys is obtained by dividing the monthly totals by the *total* number of days in the month.

Period.	Freight Carried.		Passenger Journeys Daily Average.	Gross Monthly Revenue.	Net Monthly Revenue.
	Net Ton Miles Daily Average.	Average haul per ton.			
	'000.	Miles.	'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1928-29	12,404	114.1	1,013	3,947	812
1932-33	11,267	133.1	858	3,017	777
1933-34	10,615	125.8	891	2,941	751
1934-35	11,673	124.0	969	3,171	845
1935-36	12,152	125.2	999	3,259	858
1936-37	12,820	125.9	1,028	3,407	886
1937-38	13,976	125.0	1,048	3,632	886
1938-39	13,085	127.0	1,048	3,580	694
1939-40	13,524	132.9	1,029	3,720	817
1939-40—					
July	12,050	118.0	1,048	3,386	582
August	12,825	114.9	967	3,707	869
September	14,334	124.1	1,033	4,037	1,210
October	13,986	118.0	1,052	4,051	1,196
November	13,654	122.9	1,006	3,837	844
December	14,616	135.5	1,021	4,057	1,199
January	13,836	143.4	1,040	3,910	1,110
February	14,140	134.1	1,051	3,554	851
March	14,389	159.9	1,040	3,749	941
April	12,455	170.5	1,047	3,324	535
May	11,027	140.8	977	3,318	323
June	15,250	136.4	1,076	3,710	(a) 144
1940-41—					
July	17,065	133.3	1,079	4,224	1,375
August	16,688	131.1	1,029	4,354	1,459

(a) Figures not comparable with other months owing to the inclusion in some States of certain annual and other commitments in the expenditure figures for June.

MAINLAND RAILWAYS: FREIGHT TONNAGES CARRIED.

The following table shows statistics of freight tonnages carried by the Mainland State and Commonwealth Railways.

The daily averages for freight tonnages are obtained by dividing monthly tonnages by the number of days in the month, excluding Sundays, Xmas Day and Good Friday.

Freight totals are obtained by adding together the total freight tonnages carried on the Commonwealth and State Railways and deducting the sum of the interstate tonnages carried in New South Wales and South Australia. This avoids double-counting except to a negligible extent.

Period.	Daily Average Net Tonnage Carried—Mainland State and Commonwealth Railways.									
	Total Tonnage Carried.		Coal and Coke.	Other Minerals.	Wheat.	Other Grain and Flour.	Wool.	Live Stock.	Fruit.	All Other.
	Index 1928-29 = 100.	Tons.								
1928-29 ..	100	107,511	23,482	17,420	11,764	4,405	1,301	6,349	1,585	41,205
1932-33 ..	78	83,467	19,143	7,155	15,190	4,482	1,342	5,173	1,548	29,434
1933-34 ..	77	83,227	20,518	7,763	10,605	4,482	1,178	5,830	1,641	31,210
1934-35 ..	87	92,948	23,960	9,423	11,692	4,957	1,239	6,188	1,708	33,781
1935-36 ..	89	95,765	25,474	9,516	11,505	4,505	1,164	6,477	1,657	35,467
1936-37 ..	93	100,421	27,528	9,699	11,024	4,321	1,224	6,931	1,626	38,068
1937-38 ..	103	110,219	30,329	11,378	13,095	4,847	1,284	7,619	1,673	39,994
1938-39 ..	94	101,141	28,570	9,857	10,887	4,765	1,241	7,288	1,685	36,848
1939-40 ..	93	100,495	26,262	9,035	11,515	5,061	1,476	7,201	1,557	38,388
1939-40—										
July ..	94	101,260	34,573	10,351	7,338	5,092	811	6,649	1,208	35,238
August ..	103	110,557	36,605	10,921	7,156	4,258	1,910	6,632	1,193	41,882
September ..	106	113,777	32,312	10,786	7,742	4,501	3,641	7,505	1,268	46,022
October ..	109	117,095	33,321	10,539	7,931	4,507	3,790	10,425	1,263	45,319
November ..	102	109,534	28,486	10,185	8,998	4,681	2,432	9,595	1,236	43,921
December ..	99	106,398	28,377	8,381	16,885	6,031	890	7,815	1,158	36,861
January ..	89	95,483	22,539	7,828	21,189	5,732	453	6,908	1,225	29,609
February ..	97	104,664	28,393	10,039	15,983	4,967	489	6,473	1,883	36,437
March ..	82	88,663	12,908	9,190	11,260	4,956	822	6,074	2,578	40,875
April ..	66	71,201	4,563	5,027	8,313	4,829	1,048	5,617	2,381	39,423
May ..	73	78,922	18,437	5,584	10,707	5,144	827	5,489	1,748	30,986
June ..	102	109,292	34,650	9,744	15,004	6,108	525	7,284	1,598	34,379
1940-41—										
July ..	118	126,875	39,441	10,475	18,474	5,990	1,028	7,260	1,696	42,511
August ..	117	125,839	39,245	9,741	14,161	5,100	2,439	7,349	1,777	46,027

INTERSTATE SHIPPING CARGOES.

Monthly Averages.	Tons (weight and measurement combined) shipped from—						
	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Total Australia.
1928-29 ..	'000. 210	'000. 60	'000. 33	'000. 104	'000. 8	'000. 48	'000. 463
1932-33 ..	191	58	30	84	4	39	406
1933-34 ..	205	66	31	103	6	45	456
1934-35 ..	231	74	32	150	7	55	549
1935-36 ..	250	80	37	151	7	62	587
1936-37 ..	284	92	39	184	8	68	675
1937-38 ..	307	101	37	212	8	75	740
1938-39 ..	284	94	39	240	10	79	746
1938-39—							
October ..	144	96	50	177	9	54	530
November ..	330	92	79	215	14	62	792
December ..	287	89	40	238	13	59	726
January ..	229	83	26	238	8	64	648
February ..	316	85	26	241	12	86	766
March ..	353	98	23	255	9	99	837
April ..	293	91	18	271	8	91	772
May ..	315	93	26	306	9	97	846
June ..	322	80	26	281	9	91	809
1939-40—							
July ..	302	81	51	282	9	68	793
August ..	335	91	70	243	8	84	831
September ..	357	117	56	250	10	87	877
October ..	342	102	75	235	9	81	844
November ..	313	103	60	226	13	80	795
December ..	326	98	47	273	6	64	814
January ..	266	86	38	276	4	68	738
February ..	284	95	27	274	9	87	776

OVERSEA SHIPPING CARGOES.

Monthly Averages.			Discharged.			Shipped.		
			Tons Weight.	Tons Measure.	Total (Tons W and M).	Tons Weight.	Tons Measure.	Total (Tons W and M).
1928-29	..	..	'000. 300	'000. 206	'000. 506	'000. 378	'000. 63	'000. 441
1932-33	..	..	223	102	325	470	65	535
1933-34	..	..	217	116	333	355	61	416
1934-35	..	..	248	143	391	435	72	507
1935-36	..	..	295	162	457	434	75	509
1936-37	..	..	304	169	473	419	78	497
1937-38	..	..	364	190	554	478	91	569
1938-39	..	..	353	183	536	426	93	519
1938-39—								
October	..	..	347	231	578	358	99	457
November	..	..	397	213	610	382	80	462
December	..	..	434	157	591	513	77	590
January	..	..	325	191	516	386	68	454
February	..	..	314	141	455	490	74	564
March	..	..	347	210	557	490	124	614
April	..	..	303	154	457	394	132	526
May	..	..	378	178	556	481	137	618
June	..	..	347	180	527	387	75	462
1939-40—								
July	..	..	356	191	547	405	66	471
August	..	..	330	208	538	390	67	457
September	..	..	337	156	493	338	74	412
October	..	..	367	147	514	459	94	553
November	..	..	292	174	466	385	66	451
December	..	..	220	191	411	369	80	449
January	..	..	262	264	526	310	57	367
February	..	..	300	266	566	361	62	423

WHOLESALE TRADE.

Some indication of fluctuations in the value of wholesale trade is given by the returns made under the Sales Tax Acts, but care must be exercised in interpreting the figures. The returns do not relate to all wholesale trade, nor do they cover a constant proportion of all trade. The effects of legislative and administrative changes on the recorded values of taxable and exempt goods respectively are somewhat uncertain, although total recorded sales are affected in smaller degree by such changes. Insufficient information is available to enable adjustments to be made to the crude figures on this account. Except where such changes are indicated, the "preliminary" figures are fairly comparable with one another, but they are not directly comparable with the "final" figures.

An index of activity in New South Wales is afforded by monthly returns of the sales of 42 large factories

Monthly Averages.	Commonwealth.			New South Wales.
	Net Sales Recorded under Sales Tax Acts.(a)			Value of Sales of 42 large factories.
	Taxable Goods.	Exempt Goods.	Taxable and Exempt Goods.	
	£'000. (b)	£'000. (b)	£'000. (b)	£'000.
1930-31	15,153	15,621	30,774	2,065
1931-32	12,632	15,873	28,505	1,999
1932-33	13,071	16,075	29,146	2,098
1933-34	13,442	16,334	29,776	2,248
1934-35	14,392	17,272	31,664	2,427
1935-36	16,007	18,632	34,639	2,661
1936-37	15,440	21,751	37,191	2,912
1937-38	16,942	23,612	40,554	3,167
1938-39	16,374	23,388	39,762	2,956
1939-40—	(c)	(c)	(c)	
July	12,582	19,985	32,567	2,961
August	13,254	21,226	34,480	3,386
September	16,613	23,813	40,426	3,669
October	16,778	23,896	40,674	3,421
November	14,304	22,349	36,653	3,841
December	14,904	20,923	35,827	3,606
January	12,746	20,259	33,005	3,212
February	13,664	19,066	32,730	3,468
March	14,294	20,648	34,942	3,562
April	16,519	23,392	39,911	3,581
May	13,190	20,314	33,504	3,498
June	11,280	19,423	30,703	3,083
1940-41—				
July	11,838	22,129	33,967	3,512
August	14,222	22,582	36,804	3,520
September	..	..	..	3,634

(a) The Act came into operation on 18th August, 1930, the rate of tax being 2½ per cent. It was raised to 6 per cent. on 11th July, 1931, but was reduced to 5 per cent. on 26th October, 1933, and to 4 per cent. on 11th September, 1936. It was again raised to 5 per cent. on 22nd September, 1938, to 6 per cent. on 9th September, 1939, and to 8½ per cent. on 3rd May, 1940. With certain special exemptions, all goods sold in Australia, including imports, are taxable. The list of exemptions was extended as from 11th July, 1931; 2nd September, 1932; 11th November, 1932; 27th October, 1933; 1st August, 1934; 13th December, 1934; 25th October, 1935; 26th September, 1936; 26th September, 1939; and 3rd June, 1940. (b) "Final" figures. (c) "Preliminary" figures.

RETAIL TRADE.

Statistics of retail sales are collected in three States but are available for publication in only two, viz., New South Wales and Queensland. In New South Wales the Retail Traders Association Research Bureau, in co-operation with the Commonwealth Bank, collects returns from a number of large Sydney stores. In Queensland returns are collected by the Bureau of Industry from twelve large department stores in Brisbane and their branches in country towns. Because of the relatively rapid development of chain store business, it is uncertain to what extent the department store figures are representative of all retail trade.

VALUE OF RETAIL SALES: PERCENTAGE CHANGE ON PREVIOUS YEAR.

Period	Sydney.					Queensland.				
	Average of 3 months ended—				Year.	Average of 3 months ended—				Year.
	September.	December.	March.	June.		September.	December.	March.	June.	
1928-29 ..	..	..	..	..	..	+1.9	+2.6	+2.1	+3.6	+2.6
1932-33 ..	+12.4	+3.8	0.6	-1.6	+3.5	-0.5	-2.2	-4.2	-0.1	-1.7
1933-34 ..	+1.8	+3.3	+3.3	+7.7	+3.2	-4.3	+1.8	+5.7	+7.3	+2.6
1934-35 ..	+9.8	+6.3	+3.2	+7.1	+6.6	+4.8	+3.3	+2.8	+1.1	+2.9
1935-36 ..	+5.0	+8.3	+7.6	+6.5	+6.9	+1.3	+1.0	-0.7	-1.2	-0.5
1936-37 ..	+6.5	+4.6	+4.5	+5.7	+5.3	+0.8	-2.6	-3.0	-1.3	-1.5
1937-38 ..	+8.1	+11.7	+6.3	+6.7	+8.3	+1.4	+6.1	+2.7	+5.1	+4.0
1938-39 ..	+4.7	+2.3	+4.6	-3.1	+1.9	+3.7	+1.1	+0.7	+3.5	+2.3
1939-40 ..	+2.6	+5.6	+3.2	+6.3	+4.5	+6.1	+9.9	+9.1	+8.7	+8.5
	Month of—		Average of 3 months ended—			Month of—		Average of 3 months ended—		
1939-40—										
July ..	0.9		Nil.			+1.2		+2.2		
August ..	+0.6		0.1			+0.3		+1.2		
September ..	+8.5		+2.6			+18.1		+6.1		
October ..	+14.0		+7.8			+15.1		+11.2		
November ..	+2.3		+8.1			+7.1		+13.2		
December ..	+2.6		+5.6			+8.4		+9.9		
January ..	+7.8		+3.8			+8.6		+8.1		
February ..	+10.6		+6.2			+10.2		+8.9		
March ..	+7.6		+3.2			+8.4		+9.1		
April ..	+14.4		+5.5			+9.9		+9.6		
May ..	+7.0		+4.5			+9.3		+9.3		
June ..	-2.1		+6.3			+7.1		+8.7		
1940-41—										
July ..	+11.2		+5.6			+6.0		+7.5		
August ..	+12.7		+7.3			+5.9		+6.4		
September ..	-1.0		+7.5			+3.9		+5.3		

AUSTRALIAN TRADING BANKS.(a)

£A'000.

Quarter.	Business within Australia.							£A'000. London Funds. (c)	Total Cash + Treasury Bills + London Funds.
	Deposits.			Advances.	Government and Municipal Securities. (b)	Cash.	Treasury Bills.		
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.						
1931—3rd	177,009	77,541	254,550	238,331	9,691	44,969	13,891	19,786	78,646
1932— ..	185,182	81,888	267,070	229,491	9,917	40,709	34,559	19,120	94,388
1933— ..	182,439	85,370	267,809	235,269	16,884	40,001	29,201	20,120	89,322
1934— ..	192,263	97,078	289,341	240,948	20,269	51,483	25,513	23,088	100,084
1935— ..	180,382	102,016	282,398	256,601	22,585	34,374	22,515	18,036	74,925
1936— ..	180,311	102,541	282,852	264,942	14,897	29,910	23,686	21,595	75,191
1937— ..	192,316	114,754	307,070	264,127	19,713	36,889	22,530	(d)	(d)
1938— ..	199,802	113,748	313,550	287,095	20,123	32,689	16,966	(d)	(d)
1939—3rd	201,871	116,358	318,229	294,421	21,950	31,390	19,095	(d)	(d)
4th	202,471	127,259	329,730	292,853	23,501	37,237	23,205	(d)	(d)
1940—1st	212,434	138,058	350,492	279,676	33,351	44,112	41,257	(d)	(d)
2nd	214,686	138,438	353,124	286,784	41,857	38,986	41,760	(d)	(d)
3rd	207,587	139,906	347,493	286,637	43,736	39,959	34,210	(d)	(d)

Quarter.	Percentages of various categories of assets to total deposits.					Percentage Non-interest- bearing to Total Deposits.
	Cash in Australia.	Cash + Treasury Bills.	Cash + Treasury Bills. + London Funds.	Advances.	Advances + Government and Municipal Securities in Australia. (b)	
1931—3rd ..	% 17.67	% 23.12	% 30.90	% 93.63	% 97.44	% 30.46
1932— ..	15.24	28.18	35.34	85.93	89.64	30.66
1933— ..	14.94	25.84	33.25	87.85	94.15	31.88
1934— ..	17.79	26.61	34.59	83.28	90.28	33.55
1935— ..	12.17	20.14	26.53	90.86	98.86	36.12
1936— ..	10.57	18.95	26.58	93.67	98.94	36.25
1937— ..	12.01	19.35	(d)	86.02	92.44	37.37
1938— ..	10.43	15.84	(d)	91.56	97.98	36.28
1939—3rd ..	9.86	15.86	(d)	92.52	99.42	36.56
4th ..	11.29	18.03	(d)	88.82	95.94	38.59
1940—1st ..	12.59	25.36	(d)	79.80	89.31	39.39
2nd ..	11.04	22.87	(d)	81.21	93.07	39.21
3rd ..	11.50	21.34	(d)	82.49	95.65	40.26

(a) Nine trading banks, including banks amalgamated with any of the present nine.
(b) Excluding Australian Government Securities.

(c) Excluding Treasury Bills.

(d) Not yet available.

COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA.

£A'000.

Quarter.	General Banking Department.						Note Issue and General Banking Department.		Notes held outside Commonwealth Bank.
	Business within Australia.								
	Deposits.			Balances Due to Other Banks.	Advances, &c., and Short Term Loans.	Government and Municipal Securities (including Treasury Bills).	Sterling Reserve and Short Call Money in London.	Net London Funds. (a)	
	Bearing Interest.	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.						
1931—3rd ..	16,682	8,796	25,478	22,961	18,732	28,181	23,895	4,575	47,484
1932— " ..	27,224	5,807	33,031	21,878	10,271	37,159	29,907	15,400	43,138
1933— " ..	32,001	6,280	38,281	22,612	(b) 7,753	45,601	30,347	37,360	41,704
1934— " ..	30,964	10,390	41,354	36,559	7,355	46,435	33,666	50,576	40,573
1935— " ..	31,277	10,291	41,568	20,536	8,449	43,259	41,667	27,508	41,488
1936— " ..	32,858	14,363	47,221	16,767	10,021	42,123	35,238	29,061	41,685
1937— " ..	41,375	15,244	56,619	23,094	12,431	41,909	49,643	(c)	43,246
1938— " ..	44,814	17,468	62,282	18,890	15,822	42,315	39,587	(c)	45,036
1939—3rd ..	42,673	17,717	60,390	19,801	19,697	52,891	31,309	(c)	45,664
4th ..	41,431	20,308	61,739	25,577	21,792	54,209	33,696	(c)	49,661
1940—1st ..	45,594	23,496	69,090	33,478	32,507	41,661	47,740	(c)	49,708
2nd ..	50,169	30,054	80,223	28,968	37,412	33,086	58,539	(c)	51,606
3rd ..	49,512	33,813	83,325	29,690	35,862	34,923	65,255	(c)	59,083

(a) Last Monday in quarter.

set-offs are deducted from gross advances.

(b) This fall in balances was due to a change of system by which credit balances allowed as

(c) Not yet available.

ALL CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS.

(Including Commonwealth Bank.)

Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances. (b)	Government and Municipal Securities (including Treasury Bills).	Percentage Non-interest-bearing to Total Deposits. (c)	Percentage Advances to Total Deposits. (c)
	Bearing Interest. (a)	Not Bearing Interest.	Total.				
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	%	%
1931—3rd ..	211,207	88,529	299,736	280,934	57,258	30.2	92.2
1932— " ..	218,278	88,611	306,889	260,559	86,004	28.9	80.3
1933— " ..	220,127	92,514	312,641	263,615	97,123	29.6	79.9
1934— " ..	229,164	108,343	337,507	268,452	98,338	32.1	75.5
1935— " ..	218,132	113,664	331,796	286,020	94,544	34.2	82.1
1936— " ..	219,546	118,414	337,960	296,407	86,550	35.0	83.6
1937— " ..	240,088	131,814	371,902	299,231	88,410	35.4	76.5
1938— " ..	248,216	132,927	381,143	326,485	82,268	34.8	81.6
1939—3rd ..	247,932	135,703	383,635	336,845	95,475	35.5	83.7
4th ..	247,290	149,343	396,633	337,381	102,403	37.7	81.3
1940—1st ..	261,571	163,899	425,470	334,846	118,237	38.5	75.6
2nd ..	268,196	170,778	438,974	347,380	118,733	38.9	75.7
3rd ..	260,426	175,992	436,418	345,512	114,902	40.3	75.7

(a) Includes Inscribed Deposit Stock of E.S. and A. and Queensland National Banks.

(b) Includes Short Term Loans, other than Treasury Bills of the Commonwealth Bank.

(c) In computing the ratios the figures relating to the Rural Bank of New South Wales have been excluded.

BANK CLEARINGS.

In the absence of statistics of debits to customers' accounts, bank clearings form a useful index of the money-value of cheque payments. Since they do not include cheques deposited in the banks on which they are drawn, the figures are not exhaustive, and their comparability is sometimes impaired by the effects of banking amalgamations. Cheque clearings connected with the redemption or issue of Treasury Bills have been excluded from the following table, but adjustments have not been made for other sporadic transactions concerned with public finance.

£'000.

Weekly Averages.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.	Six Capitals.
1928-29	20,064	15,408	3,777	3,093	2,188	542	45,072
1932-33	11,876	11,577	2,747	2,080	1,422	378	30,080
1933-34	13,362	12,723	2,992	2,214	1,575	411	33,277
1934-35	13,919	13,004	3,385	2,386	1,715	426	34,835
1935-36	15,522	14,208	3,528	2,592	1,866	507	38,223
1936-37	17,247	15,592	3,753	2,900	1,989	559	42,040
1937-38	17,964	16,323	4,038	3,040	2,092	577	44,034
1938-39	17,832	15,415	4,212	2,953	2,055	623	43,090
1939-40	19,541	17,661	4,670	3,246	2,234	697	48,049
1938-39—							
October	18,486	15,175	4,546	3,085	2,090	561	43,943
November	18,536	16,190	4,095	3,038	2,081	551	44,491
December	20,323	19,613	4,574	3,564	2,452	670	51,196
January	14,751	13,944	3,507	2,470	2,077	526	37,275
February	18,996	16,093	4,646	3,156	2,230	774	45,895
March	18,001	15,167	4,156	3,168	2,201	707	43,400
April	17,326	15,192	3,892	3,128	2,028	663	42,229
May	17,597	15,336	3,961	2,882	2,023	820	42,619
June	17,858	14,866	4,387	2,923	1,885	598	42,517
1939-40—							
July	17,719	15,089	4,286	2,708	1,927	718	42,447
August	16,490	13,080	4,084	2,420	1,850	591	38,515
September	17,122	13,963	4,245	2,824	1,896	586	40,636
October	17,777	15,417	4,399	3,033	2,036	588	43,250
November	19,612	18,564	4,996	3,378	2,236	604	49,390
December	21,405	20,678	5,026	3,392	2,405	631	53,537
January	17,528	16,045	3,804	3,173	2,698	755	44,003
February	21,569	19,403	5,104	4,124	2,609	672	53,481
March	20,020	18,024	4,323	3,515	2,336	776	48,994
April	20,011	18,901	4,617	3,446	2,327	788	50,090
May	19,076	18,752	4,732	3,316	2,095	760	48,731
June	21,998	21,237	5,889	3,750	2,155	811	55,840
1940-41—							
July	22,209	19,162	5,495	3,420	2,281	764	53,331
August	18,890	16,642	4,520	2,993	2,019	581	45,645
September	20,155	17,182	4,784	3,151	2,057	601	47,930
October	19,786	19,239	4,813	3,148	2,222	628	49,836

AMOUNTS ON DEPOSIT IN SAVINGS BANKS.

Amount on deposit at end of—	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia (a)
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
1928-29 ..	85,728	72,707	24,076	25,228	11,609	5,811	225,486
1932-33 ..	72,308	67,814	23,453	22,515	10,064	5,865	202,282
1933-34 ..	75,714	69,971	24,834	23,438	10,399	6,039	210,676
1934-35 ..	77,906	72,019	26,197	24,185	10,929	6,430	217,949
1935-36 ..	80,000	73,890	27,132	25,309	11,517	6,818	224,962
1936-37 ..	81,952	75,720	27,304	26,506	11,835	7,215	230,851
1937-38 ..	86,016	78,877	28,206	27,244	12,037	7,692	240,432
1938-39 ..	87,474	80,461	29,045	27,359	12,396	8,396	245,549
1939-40 ..	82,111	79,145	28,252	26,526	11,860	8,518	236,954
1938-39—							
October ..	86,763	79,360	28,999	27,483	12,256	7,973	243,220
November ..	86,341	78,899	28,989	27,117	12,249	7,938	241,920
December ..	86,645	80,142	29,112	27,146	12,217	8,012	243,650
January ..	86,824	80,045	28,950	27,120	12,190	8,048	243,560
February ..	86,591	79,702	28,628	26,982	12,154	8,180	242,621
March ..	86,269	79,569	28,495	26,846	12,159	8,229	241,956
April ..	86,222	79,559	28,325	26,818	12,149	8,272	241,737
May ..	86,097	79,558	28,477	26,796	12,179	8,353	241,860
June ..	87,474	80,461	29,045	27,359	12,396	8,397	245,549
1939-40—							
July ..	87,201	80,001	29,161	27,275	12,389	8,475	244,929
August ..	86,957	79,896	29,345	27,236	12,412	8,603	244,895
September ..	86,557	79,741	29,447	27,086	12,390	8,595	244,269
October ..	86,751	80,025	29,620	27,061	12,452	8,577	244,952
November ..	86,684	80,358	29,887	27,061	12,540	8,579	245,587
December ..	86,581	80,131	29,712	26,966	12,441	8,549	244,866
January ..	86,716	80,282	29,382	26,977	12,422	8,567	244,836
February ..	87,167	81,008	29,359	27,242	12,511	8,707	245,503
March ..	86,759	80,807	29,096	27,200	12,428	8,690	245,500
April ..	87,056	81,417	29,139	27,286	12,458	8,789	246,675
May ..	85,180	80,869	28,859	27,103	12,283	8,722	243,562
June ..	82,111	79,145	28,252	26,526	11,860	8,518	236,954
1940-41—							
July ..	82,135	78,882	28,294	26,421	11,764	8,517	236,562
August ..	83,074	79,854	28,643	26,627	11,915	8,678	239,966
September ..	83,827	80,439	29,113	26,804	12,090	8,685	241,544
October ..	84,568	81,479	29,499	26,916	12,233	8,713	244,012

(a) Including internal Territories.

INTEREST RATES AND BOND YIELDS : AUSTRALIA.

Period.	Australian Trading Banks. Interest on Fixed Deposits.				Common- wealth Savings Bank.	Yield on Australian Securities.				
	3 months.	6 months.	12 months.	24 months.	Deposits (maximum rate).	Treasury Bills.	Australian Consolidated Loans.			
							All Issues.	4% 1941	4% 1944 and 1947.	4% 1950, '53, '55, '57, '59 and 1961.
1928-29 ..	% 4.0	% 4.0	% 4.5	% 5.0	% 3.9	% 4.50	% 5.35	% ..	% ..	% ..
1932-33 ..	2.2	2.7	3.0	3.2	2.6	3.35	3.98	3.89	3.93	3.96
1933-34 ..	2.0	2.4	2.7	2.9	2.5	2.44	3.53	3.41	3.50	3.64
1934-35 ..	1.3	1.8	2.3	2.6	2.1	1.95	3.32	3.19	3.28	3.45
1935-36 ..	1.3	1.8	2.4	2.6	2.0	1.75	3.76	3.72	3.76	3.84
1936-37 ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.89	3.81	3.88	3.95
1937-38 ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.68	3.57	3.66	3.78
1938-39 ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.84	3.83	3.85	3.87
1939-40 ..	1.9	2.4	2.6	2.9	2.0	1.71	3.71	3.72	3.71	3.76
1939-40—										
September ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	4.08	4.38	4.14	4.08
October ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.99	4.08	3.99	4.01
November ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.89	3.82	3.88	3.95
December ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.81	3.68	3.73	3.88
January ..	2.0	2.5	2.75	3.0	2.0	1.75	3.73	3.53	3.68	3.80
February ..	1.75	2.25	2.5	2.75	2.0	1.75	3.60	3.49	3.51	3.62
March ..	1.75	2.25	2.5	2.75	2.0	1.75	3.52	3.13	3.32	3.60
April ..	1.75	2.25	2.5	2.75	2.0	1.75	3.25	2.80	3.07	3.29
May ..	1.75	2.25	2.5	2.75	2.0	1.50	3.28	3.45	3.99	3.44
June ..	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	2.0	1.50	3.35	4.27	3.29	3.51
1940-41—										
July ..	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	2.0	1.50	3.31	3.94	3.29	3.50
August ..	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	2.0	1.50	3.28	3.72	3.25	3.48
September ..	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	2.0	1.50	3.23	3.62	3.12	3.40
October ..	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	2.0	1.50	3.19	3.15	2.99	3.41
November ..	1.5	2.0	2.25	2.5	2.0	1.50	3.13	3.23	2.93	3.36

RATES OF INTEREST ON FIRST MORTGAGES : NEW SOUTH WALES.

Average for Three Months ended—		First Mortgages Registered. Proportion of total amount for which rates are disclosed.				
		Rate of Interest per cent. per annum.				
		4½ or under.	Over 4½-5.	Over 5-6.	Over 6-7.	Over 7.
1939—July ..	..	% 16	% 37	% 37	% 7	% 3
August ..	..	14	35	39	9	3
September ..	..	16	36	36	9	3
October ..	..	13	35	39	10	3
1940—July ..	..	13	40	37	7	3
August ..	..	15	39	36	7	3
September ..	..	16	39	36	6	3
October ..	..	16	36	39	6	3

EXCHANGE RATES AND GOLD PRICES.

Period.	Exchange Rates.			Gold Prices.	
	Australia on London.(a)	London on New York.	Australia on New York.(b)	Australia - Export Parity.(c)	London.
	£A. per £100 stg.	\$ per £ stg.	\$ per £A.	£A. per fine oz.	£ stg. per fine oz.
1928-29	100.75	4.852	4.828	4.217	4.248
1932-33	125.25	3.529	2.771	7.486	6.066
1933-34	125.25	4.934	3.898	8.098	6.584
1934-35	125.25	4.925	3.917	8.739	7.077
1935-36	125.25	4.957	3.940	8.701	7.035
1936-37	125.25	4.939	3.929	8.761	7.041
1937-38	125.25	4.980	3.961	8.690	7.001
1938-39	125.25	4.738	3.759	9.137	7.340
1939-40	125.25	4.138	3.285	10.418	8.239
1938-39—					
October	125.25	4.769	3.792	9.083	7.288
November	125.25	4.710	3.743	9.186	7.381
December	125.25	4.671	3.711	9.264	7.444
January	125.25	4.669	3.708	9.273	7.446
February	125.25	4.686	3.727	9.232	7.419
March	125.25	4.686	3.727	9.258	7.419
April	125.25	4.681	3.724	9.256	7.425
May	125.25	4.682	3.723	9.245	7.423
June	125.25	4.683	3.725	9.242	7.423
1939-40—					
July	125.25	4.683	3.724	9.244	7.426
August	125.25	4.610	3.680	9.519	7.520
September	125.25	4.046	3.225	10.551	(d) 8.380
October	125.25	4.030	3.193	10.550	8.400
November	125.25	4.030	3.193	10.597	8.400
December	125.25	4.030	3.193	10.625	8.400
January	125.25	4.030	3.196	10.636	8.400
February	125.25	4.030	3.197	10.659	8.400
March	125.25	4.030	3.197	10.663	8.400
April	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.663	8.400
May	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.663	8.400
June	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.651	8.400
1940-41—					
July	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.550	8.400
August	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.625	8.400
September	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.661	8.400
October	125.25	4.030	3.198	10.700	8.400

(a) Average of buying and selling rates for Telegraphic Transfers. (b) Selling rate. Direct quotations from July, 1932, to date. Computed through London prior to that date. (c) Average price paid by the mints in Australia as from July, 1932. Prior thereto the export parity was calculated directly from London prices. (d) Bank of England buying price unchanged at 8.400 from 5th September, 1939.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Government of—	July-October, 1939-40.			July-October, 1940-41.		
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (-).	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (-).
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
New South Wales(a) ..	14,211	18,253	-4,042	16,817	18,409	-1,592
Victoria	6,161	8,705	-2,544	6,670	9,074	-2,404
Queensland	5,831	6,319	-488	5,807	6,335	-528
South Australia	3,063	4,153	-1,090	3,393	4,082	-689
Western Australia	3,309	3,738	-429	3,362	3,819	-457
Tasmania	724	866	-142	738	877	-139
Six States	33,299	42,034	-8,735	36,787	42,596	-5,809
Commonwealth	31,707	31,061	+ 646	34,009	34,318	-309
Grand Total(b) ..	61,804	69,893	-8,089	67,594	73,712	-6,118

Government of—	Year 1939-40.			Estimate, Year 1940-41.		
	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (-).	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus (+) or Deficit (-).
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
New South Wales(a) ..	54,843	57,118	-2,275	57,623	59,162	-1,539
Victoria	28,103	28,097	+ 6	28,947	28,944	+ 3
Queensland	20,756	20,740	+ 16	21,199	21,193	+ 6
South Australia	12,756	12,919	-163	12,592	12,975	-383
Western Australia	11,120	11,267	-147	11,217	11,384	-167
Tasmania (c)	3,055	3,053	+ 2	2,919	3,135	-216
Six States	130,633	133,194	-2,561	134,497	136,793	-2,296
Commonwealth	111,914	108,986	+ 2,928	150,100	150,073	+ 27
Grand Total(b) ..	232,842	232,475	+ 367	274,842	277,111	-2,269

(a) Excludes Main Roads Department and recoups of interest, &c., from undertakings outside the Budget, and from the Unemployment Relief Fund. (b) To avoid duplication in aggregating particulars for the Commonwealth and States, the grand totals exclude payments by the Commonwealth to the States on account of interest on States' debts, special grants, &c. (c) Reductions in 1939-40 figures are largely due to the separation of the railway transactions from the Consolidated Revenue Fund, as prescribed by the Transport Act 1938, and to the allocation of Motor Tax and Motor Licence Fees, &c., to the Transport Commission.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATES: SHORT TERM DEBT.(a)

AT 31ST OCTOBER, 1940.

Where Redeemable.	Commonwealth Securities issued on behalf of—							
	Commonwealth.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Total.
	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.	£'000.
Australia	..	35,343	4,075	2,913	3,530	6,305	585	52,751
London	3,970	9,965	5,885	..	3,816	2,998	491	27,125

(a) Excluding overdrafts. For debt redeemable in Australia the unit of currency is £1 Australian, in London £1 sterling

POST OFFICE ACTIVITY.

Period.	Monthly average Receipts of P.M.C.'s. Department.(a)	Broadcast Listeners' Licences in force at end of period.(b)	Telephone Services connected at end of period.	
			Lines.	Instruments.
1928-29	£'000. 1,071	No. 300,528	No. 384,358	No. 505,554
1932-33	1,053	468,430	363,776	487,662
1933-34	1,096	597,989	372,621	501,402
1934-35	1,164	720,532	396,025	532,377
1935-36	1,239	823,613	417,661	562,868
1936-37	1,318	938,331	440,471	594,855
1937-38	1,396	1,056,004	465,498	630,175
1938-39	1,447	1,129,786	487,535	661,996
1939-40	1,491	1,212,260	506,612	691,088
1938-39—				
October	1,428	1,093,528	474,007	642,084
November	1,412	1,097,309	475,841	644,791
December	1,522	1,100,373	477,487	647,192
January	1,427	1,106,400	478,855	649,269
February	1,359	1,114,047	480,533	651,730
March	1,577	1,119,062	482,296	654,381
April	1,302	1,120,188	483,718	656,409
May	1,516	1,126,607	485,712	659,336
June	1,552	1,129,786	487,535	661,996
1939-40—				
July	1,426	1,134,586	489,501	664,859
August	1,493	1,134,048	491,468	667,625
September	1,454	1,146,132	493,028	670,003
October	1,484	1,155,632	494,504	672,377
November	1,458	1,169,452	496,190	674,797
December	1,532	1,170,929	497,780	677,063
January	1,528	1,178,217	499,215	679,338
February	1,460	1,185,250	500,742	681,873
March	1,375	1,184,261	502,737	684,734
April	1,610	1,195,252	504,223	687,068
May	1,541	1,205,578	505,861	689,543
June	1,536	1,212,260	506,612	691,088
1940-41—				
July	1,517	1,236,960	506,937	692,184
August	1,449	1,239,824	508,092	694,254
September	1,445	1,247,683	509,979	696,688
October	1,719	1,258,363	512,121	699,802

(a) Actual collections.

(b) Includes Papua.

MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS.

Period.	Motor Vehicles on Register at end of period.			New Motor Vehicles Registered during period.(a)		
	Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles, &c.	Motor Cycles.	Motor Cars.	Commercial Vehicles, &c.	Motor Cycles.
1928-29	474,359	71,851	88,049	73,547	17,133	8,656
1932-33	438,499	105,837	72,896	12,189	3,942	2,639
1933-34	455,199	116,341	73,104	20,427	7,931	3,936
1934-35	457,684	155,721	75,045	32,985	14,146	5,249
1935-36	484,832	180,567	77,467	50,427	19,851	6,673
1936-37	499,289	214,296	77,912	48,587	24,191	7,479
1937-38	534,963	241,751	80,114	55,125	27,402	8,323
1938-39	562,271	258,025	79,237	52,897	23,646	7,064
1939-40	557,180	263,404	74,455	38,980	18,558	4,363
1938-39—						
October	537,907	248,412	78,878	4,102	2,097	555
November	542,951	251,105	79,183	4,509	2,194	610
December	548,091	252,994	79,806	5,265	2,101	707
January	552,049	254,291	79,771	3,655	1,603	543
February	554,537	255,358	79,824	4,790	1,815	753
March	557,254	256,979	80,116	5,067	2,054	818
April	555,628	256,640	79,168	4,111	1,672	530
May	558,528	258,355	79,139	5,069	2,021	529
June	562,271	258,025	79,237	4,122	1,907	429
1939-40—						
July	559,356	260,270	77,894	3,544	1,716	414
August	555,381	253,819	76,284	3,962	1,846	441
September	557,488	256,902	76,601	3,023	1,574	400
October	558,701	259,287	76,637	3,594	1,898	445
November	561,260	261,320	76,602	3,963	1,872	397
December	563,336	261,892	76,518	3,657	1,554	384
January	563,942	263,222	76,499	2,991	1,286	365
February	565,668	264,309	76,524	3,835	1,373	400
March	565,069	264,174	76,028	3,215	1,405	306
April	563,638	264,356	75,418	3,235	1,620	287
May	561,639	264,617	75,077	2,584	1,444	325
June	557,180	263,404	74,455	1,377	970	199
1940-41—						
July	547,552	261,538	73,031	895	825	253
August	545,325	261,102	73,177	941	656	242
September	542,210	256,868	72,491	1,334	711	237
October	543,438	259,383	72,920	1,632	983	274

(a) Excluding Northern Territory and extra-Metropolitan area of Western Australia; also Australian Capital Territory prior to 1935-36.

OVERSEA TOURISTS AND MIGRANTS.

Monthly Averages.			Tourists.		Permanent Migrants.		
			Australians Departing Overseas.	Visitors Arriving from Overseas.	Arrivals.	Departures.	Excess of Arrivals (+) or Departures (-).
1928-29	..	..	2,079	2,183	3,148	1,689	+ 1,459
1932-33	..	..	1,516	1,518	874	1,068	- 194
1933-34	..	..	1,480	1,536	901	1,029	- 128
1934-35	..	..	1,641	2,068	1,020	959	+ 61
1935-36	..	..	1,756	1,957	1,095	935	+ 160
1936-37	..	..	1,937	2,294	1,148	954	+ 194
1937-38	..	..	2,060	2,617	1,478	926	+ 552
1938-39	..	..	1,966	2,648	2,082	1,055	+ 1,027
1939-40	..	..	629	1,526	1,295	608	+ 687
1938-39—							
October	..	..	1,011	2,817	2,114	722	+ 1,392
November	..	..	1,364	2,199	1,874	994	+ 880
December	..	..	3,075	4,268	2,180	886	+ 1,294
January	..	..	2,533	2,527	2,520	1,123	+ 1,397
February	..	..	2,739	2,706	2,337	1,189	+ 1,148
March	..	..	3,572	3,564	2,717	1,705	+ 1,012
April	..	..	2,475	2,741	2,197	1,338	+ 859
May	..	..	2,070	2,421	2,596	1,321	+ 1,275
June	..	..	1,447	2,028	1,994	1,012	+ 982
1939-40—							
July	..	..	1,174	2,084	2,310	912	+ 1,398
August	..	..	1,116	2,065	1,829	914	+ 915
September	..	..	351	1,645	1,616	486	+ 1,130
October	..	..	412	1,512	1,701	603	+ 1,098
November	..	..	486	1,237	972	418	+ 554
December	..	..	986	1,722	1,283	520	+ 763
January	..	..	739	1,188	1,060	740	+ 320
February	..	..	497	1,182	1,043	534	+ 509
March	..	..	624	1,598	897	729	+ 168
April	..	..	508	1,500	1,018	461	+ 557
May	..	..	376	1,382	769	549	+ 220
June	..	..	275	1,192	1,046	425	+ 621
1940-41—							
July	..	..	267	1,305	1,364	352	+ 1,012
August	..	..	221	1,058	1,504	363	+ 1,141
September	..	..	181	679	687	354	+ 333
October	..	..	314	1,184	831	357	+ 474

NOTE.—Excluding particulars of movements of Defence Service Personnel and British Evacuees.

BANKRUPTCIES AND INSOLVENCIES.

Monthly Averages.	Sequestrations. (a)		Compositions.		Deeds of Arrangement.		Total.	
	Number.	Gross Liabilities.	Number.	Gross Liabilities.	Number.	Gross Liabilities.	Number.	Gross Liabilities.
(b)		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.		£'000.
1928-29 ..	90	106	47	73	42	159	179	338
1932-33 ..	80	164	45	138	60	138	185	440
1933-34 ..	82	126	47	121	49	100	178	347
1934-35 ..	67	84	42	125	35	68	144	277
1935-36 ..	70	85	39	136	34	64	143	285
1936-37 ..	73	91	35	130	31	60	139	281
1937-38 ..	72	76	33	123	29	47	134	246
1938-39 ..	78	83	46	158	34	58	158	299
1939-40(c) ..	76	61	37	118	46	72	159	251
1938-39—								
October ..	77	60	21	67	36	103	134	230
November ..	78	78	22	49	31	45	131	172
December ..	54	60	18	35	37	64	109	159
January ..	66	55	18	30	10	21	94	106
February ..	68	88	65	312	52	66	185	466
March ..	91	80	135	569	41	67	267	716
April ..	63	55	103	365	37	73	203	493
May ..	111	123	60	174	41	55	212	352
June ..	93	85	33	75	27	44	153	204
1939-40—								
July ..	83	68	30	93	30	48	143	209
August ..	109	82	21	35	46	72	176	189
September ..	89	70	19	38	30	38	138	146
October ..	60	54	21	20	34	50	115	124
November ..	73	63	35	44	50	110	158	217
December ..	67	41	24	42	42	56	133	139
January ..	71	61	21	43	28	37	120	141
February ..	64	44	41	117	51	73	156	234
March ..	78	49	92	276	52	111	222	436
April ..	71	42	72	589	48	52	191	683
May ..	82	83	41	104	64	115	187	302
June ..	67	81	14	34	50	65	131	180
1940-41—								
July ..	77	60	45	75	57	84	179	219
August ..	70	65	23	21	42	77	135	163
September ..	68	49	25	26	45	49	138	124
October ..	73	83	22	55	41	89	136	227

(a) Including Orders for Administration of Deceased Debtors' Estates.

(b) Years ended 31st July.

(c) Subject to revision.

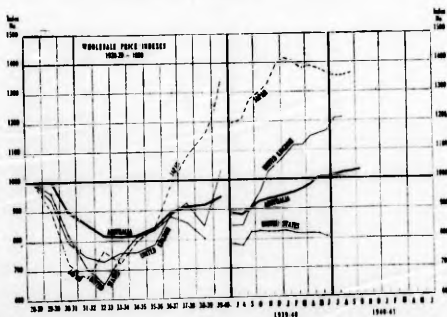
WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES : PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES.

(Base : 1928-29 = 1,000.)

Period.	United Kingdom.		U.S.A.	Japan.	Germany.	France.	Italy.	Canada.	South Africa.	New Zealand.	Australia.
	Board of Trade.	Economist.	Bureau of Labour Statistics.	Bank of Japan.	Stat. Reichamt.	Stat. Générale.	Milan.	Dominion Statistician.	Census and Statistics Office.	Government Statistician. (a)	Commonwealth Statistician.
1928-29 ..	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
1932-33 ..	729	650	654	764	668	628	600	690	745	915	815
1933-34 ..	759	683	748	721	688	612	565	743	854	920	811
1934-35 ..	760	698	811	798	724	542	581	757	811	948	814
1935-36 ..	786	740	832	841	742	549	719	764	823	957	840
1936-37 ..	883	836	879	975	755	770	801	850	831	1,033	892
1937-38 ..	924	814	857	1,079	760	974	941	881	877	1,049	911
1938-39 ..	848	736	802	1,150	763	1,041	960	783	859	1,056	916
1939-40 ..	1,036	915	(b) 813	1,336	777	..	..	844	906	1,139	944
1939-40—											
July ..	847	728	784	1,198	769	1,048	977	766	842	1,078	888
August ..	848	740	780	1,207	770	1,043	..	764	—	1,097	882
September ..	908	808	(b) 822	1,276	769	..	..	825	..	1,090	902
October ..	958	876	(b) 825	1,299	769	..	..	837	880	1,103	925
November ..	1,027	914	(b) 823	1,327	769	..	..	848	890	1,124	931
December ..	1,056	965	(b) 823	1,392	769	..	..	863	909	1,129	937
January ..	1,086	967	(b) 825	1,417	778	..	..	872	919	1,134	946
February ..	1,115	974	(b) 818	1,403	778	..	..	874	929	1,151	955
March ..	1,115	983	(b) 815	1,380	789	..	..	878	937	1,172	969
April ..	1,148	986	(b) 817	1,388	789	..	..	877	944	1,189	985
May ..	1,156	1,009	(b) 815	1,379	789	..	..	867	950	1,199	1,006
June ..	1,164	1,030	(b) 805	1,364	789	..	..	861	950	1,204	1,006
1940-41—											
July ..	1,208	1,010	..	1,352	799	..	..	870	952	1,220	1,010
August ..	1,212	1,035	..	1,353	799	..	..	873	..	1,240	(b) 1,024
September ..	1,219	1,038	..	1,362	..	..	..	877	..	1,252	1,027
October ..	1,234	1,049	..	..	..	..	..	879	..	1,268	1,030

(a) Year ended December following.

(b) Revised.



WORLD PRODUCTION AND TRADE.

(Base : 1928-29 = 1,000.)

Indexes of Industrial Production (Manufacturing and Mining).											Quantum of International Trade. (d)	
Period.		United Kingdom.	U.S.A.	Japan.	Germany. (a)	France. (b)	Canada. (c)	U.S.S.R.	World including U.S.S.R. (d)	World excluding U.S.S.R. (d)		
		Federal Reserve Board.										
		Board of Trade.	Adjusted. (c)									Official. (e)
1928-29	..	..	1,000	1,000	(f) 1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	
1932-33	..	..	867	559	1,057	564	745	549	2,185	705	719	728
1933-34	..	..	977	720	1,205	714	787	702	2,481	831	777	758
1934-35	..	..	1,065	731	1,360	878	698	771	2,985	883	860	774
1935-36	..	..	1,155	880	1,452	1,012	765	857	3,886	1,019	964	835
1936-37	..	..	1,255	1,072	1,633	1,141	846	965	(g) ..	..	1,035	917
1937-38	..	..	1,260	892	1,719	1,241	825	952	(g) ..	..	927	926
1938-39	..	..	1,229	909	1,721	1,307	775	863	(g) ..	..	..	911
1939-40	..	..	..	1,085	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1939-40--												
July	..	..	—	975	(h) 1,900	1,373	..	977	..	..	..	—
August	..	..	—	975	(h) 1,910	..	..	1,007	..	..	..	..
September	..	..	—	1,059	(h) 1,880	..	..	1,017	..	..	..	..
October	..	..	—	1,134	1,790	..	..	1,108	..	..	..	..
November	..	..	—	1,162	(h) 1,740	..	..	1,098	..	..	..	..
December	..	..	—	1,181	(h) 1,770	..	..	1,088	..	..	..	..
January	..	..	—	1,144	1,710	..	..	1,148	..	..	..	..
February	..	..	—	1,087	1,650	..	..	1,078	..	..	..	..
March	..	..	—	1,050	1,750	..	..	1,007	..	..	..	..
April	..	..	—	1,041	..	..	..	1,259	..	..	..	..
May	..	..	..	1,078	..	..	..	1,158	..	..	..	..
June	..	..	—	1,134	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1940-41—												
July	..	..	—	1,134	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
August	..	..	—	1,144	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

(a) Includes Austria from middle of March, 1938.

adjusted for seasonal variations.

(b) Monthly figures partly adjusted for seasonal variations.

(c) These figures are revised from time to time.

(d) Base : 1929 = 1,000.

(e) Monthly figures

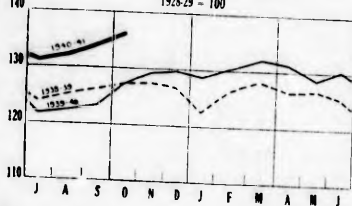
seasonal variations.

(f) Year ending 31st December following.

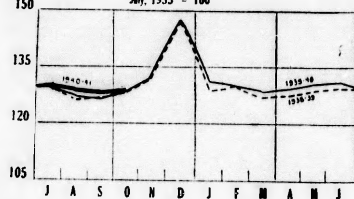
(g) Not available.

(h) Revised.

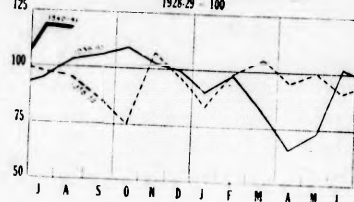
Index No. **FACTORY EMPLOYMENT INDEX: AUSTRALIA**
1928-29 = 100



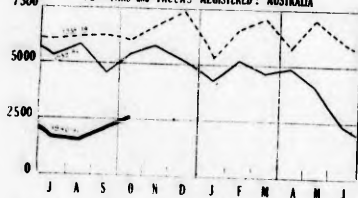
Index No. **RETAIL STORE EMPLOYMENT INDEX: AUSTRALIA**
July, 1933 = 100



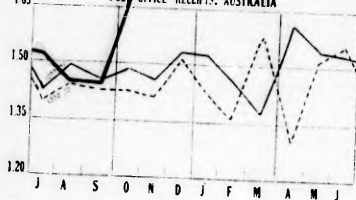
Index No. **FREIGHT TONNAGE INDEX: MAINLAND RAILWAYS**
1928-29 = 100



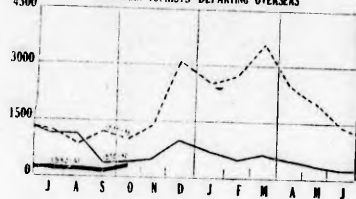
Number **NEW CARS AND TRUCKS REGISTERED: AUSTRALIA**



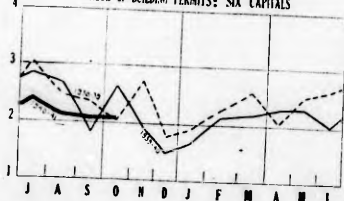
£m **POST OFFICE RECEIPTS: AUSTRALIA**



Number **AUSTRALIAN TOURISTS DEPARTING OVERSEAS**



£m **VALUE OF BUILDING PERMITS: SIX CAPITALS**



LATEST BUREAU PUBLICATIONS.

- Nov. 7. Oversea Trade : Preliminary for October, 1940 (P.N. 1073).
- „ 7. Oversea Trade : Details for September, 1940 (P.N. 1076)
- „ 11. Melbourne Wholesale Price Index-Numbers : September, 1940 (P.N. 1074).
- „ 11. Export Price Index-Numbers : September, 1940 (P.N. 1075).
- „ 14. Migration : September, 1940 (P.N. 1077).
- „ 21. Retail Prices of Food and Groceries : October, 1940 (P.N. 1078).
- „ 21. Savings Bank Deposits : October, 1940 (P.N. 1079).
- „ 21. Dairy Industry in Australia : September, 1940.
- „ 22. Monthly Review of Business Statistics : October, 1940.
- „ 22. Banking Statistics : September, 1940 (P.N. 1080).
- „ 25. Oversea Migration : September Quarter, 1940 (P.N. 1081).
- „ 29. Wheat Situation in Australia : November, 1940.