

**COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA**  
**AUSTRALIAN BANKING STATISTICS : MONTHLY BULLETIN NO. 124, DECEMBER, 1955.**

This Bulletin covers Australian Banking and related statistics. Tables 1 to 5 have been compiled from weekly returns of the banks specified in the Banking Act 1945-53, the Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia, The Rural Bank of New South Wales (General Bank Department), the State Bank of South Australia (General Banking Department) and The Rural and Industries Bank of Western Australia (Rural Department).

**TABLE 1 : CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS : AVERAGES OF LIABILITIES AND ASSETS WITHIN AUSTRALIA**  
**AS AT CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON WEDNESDAYS IN NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, 1955.**  
 (Excluding shareholders' funds, inter-branch accounts and contingencies)

| Particulars                                                                            | December, 1955 £          |                       |             |                 | November, 1955  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                                                                                        | Commonwealth Trading Bank | Private Trading Banks | Other Banks | Total All Banks | Total All Banks |
| <b>LIABILITIES - (£ 000)</b>                                                           |                           |                       |             |                 |                 |
| 1. Interminable Deposits or Deposit Stock                                              | —                         | 6                     | 20,462      | 20,468          | 20,720          |
| 2. Deposits not bearing interest -                                                     |                           |                       |             |                 |                 |
| (a) Australian Governments                                                             | 3,689                     | 6,383                 | 696         | 10,768          | 9,143           |
| (b) Other                                                                              | 136,665                   | 1,055,862             | 37,466      | 1,229,993       | 1,201,200       |
| Total                                                                                  | 140,354                   | 1,062,245             | 38,162      | 1,240,761       | 1,210,343       |
| 3. Deposits bearing interest -                                                         |                           |                       |             |                 |                 |
| (a) Australian Governments                                                             | 3,067                     | 17,197                | 4,530       | 24,794          | 29,522          |
| (b) Other (i) Fixed                                                                    | 42,544                    | 21,554                | 4,992       | 259,090         | 259,027         |
| (ii) Current                                                                           | 1,417                     | 20,532                | 6,821       | 38,770          | 38,095          |
| Total                                                                                  | 47,028                    | 259,283               | 16,343      | 322,654         | 326,644         |
| Total Deposits (Items 2 and 3)                                                         | 187,382                   | 1,321,528             | 54,505      | 1,563,415       | 1,536,987       |
| 4. Notes in Circulation                                                                | —                         | 158                   | —           | 158             | 158             |
| 5. Balances due to other banks                                                         | 387                       | 2,638                 | 1,355       | 4,380           | 5,659           |
| 6. Bills payable and all other liabilities                                             | 19,242                    | 29,364                | 451         | 39,057          | 36,106          |
| Total Liabilities:                                                                     | 207,011                   | 1,343,694             | 76,773      | 1,627,478       | 1,599,630       |
| <b>ASSETS - (£ 000)</b>                                                                |                           |                       |             |                 |                 |
| 1. Coin and Bullion - (a) Gold                                                         | 15                        | 292                   | —           | 308             | 234             |
| (b) Other                                                                              | 476                       | 4,244                 | 104         | 4,824           | 4,555           |
| 2. Australian Notes                                                                    | 6,377                     | 37,434                | 1,299       | 45,110          | 38,801          |
| 3. Cash with Commonwealth Bank                                                         | 4,065                     | 29,410                | 2,780       | 36,255          | 35,195          |
| 4. Special A/c. at Commonwealth Bank                                                   | 32,650                    | 231,903               | 891         | 265,444         | 265,444         |
| 5. Balances with and due from other banks, and notes, cheques and bills of other banks | 1,257                     | 21,971                | 1,750       | 24,978          | 26,121          |
| 6. Australian Public securities -                                                      |                           |                       |             |                 |                 |
| (a) Commonwealth and States -                                                          |                           |                       |             |                 |                 |
| (i) Treasury Bills                                                                     | 8,000                     | 45,000                | 3,400       | 56,400          | 45,600          |
| (ii) Other securities                                                                  | 40,017                    | 109,446               | 13,886      | 163,349         | 162,696         |
| (b) Local and Semi-Government Authorities                                              | —                         | 966                   | 640         | 1,606           | 1,607           |
| 7. Other public securities                                                             | —                         | —                     | —           | —               | —               |
| 8. Other securities                                                                    | 1,680                     | 6,407                 | 192         | 8,279           | 8,653           |
| 9. Loans, Advances and Bills discounted -                                              |                           |                       |             |                 |                 |
| (a) Australian Governments                                                             | —                         | —                     | —           | —               | —               |
| (b) All other customers                                                                | 104,794                   | 814,479               | 75,882      | 995,155         | 1,004,535       |
| 10. Bank premises, furniture and sites                                                 | 3,788                     | 23,925                | 3,732       | 31,445          | 30,895          |
| 11. Bills receivable, all other assets                                                 | 2,782                     | 32,646                | 929         | 37,427          | 38,895          |
| Total Assets:                                                                          | 206,902                   | 1,358,123             | 105,555     | 1,670,580       | 1,663,231       |

Ø Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for the fourth Wednesday.

Δ Includes short term loans from the Central Bank.

\* Excludes inter-bank balances resulting from the amalgamations of The National Bank of Australasia Ltd., The Queensland National Bank Ltd. (in vol. liq.) and the Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd., (in vol. liq.).

**TABLE 2 : CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS\* : AVERAGES OF DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES, DECEMBER, 1955.**  
Averages of Deposits and Advances in each State and Territory as at the close of business  
on Wednesdays in December, 1955  $\emptyset$   
 (£'000)

| State or Territory           | Deposits not bearing interest |           | Deposits bearing interest |         |         | Total Deposits | Loans, Advances and Bills Discounted |         | Ratio of Advances to Deposits (Per cent.) |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------|---------|---------|----------------|--------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------------|
|                              | Australian Governments        | Other     | Australian Governments    | Other   |         |                | Australian Governments               | Other   |                                           |
|                              |                               |           |                           | Fixed   | Current |                |                                      |         |                                           |
| New South Wales              | 3,399                         | 488,904   | 19,585                    | 83,550  | 13,522  | 608,960        | -                                    | 438,549 | 72.02                                     |
| Victoria                     | 4,702                         | 378,614   | 4,570                     | 87,443  | 12,979  | 488,308        | -                                    | 262,502 | 53.76                                     |
| Queensland                   | 1,026                         | 167,697   | 191                       | 35,731  | 6,362   | 211,007        | -                                    | 139,034 | 65.89                                     |
| South Australia              | 454                           | 88,775    | 45                        | 31,096  | 3,096   | 123,466        | -                                    | 54,665  | 44.28                                     |
| Western Australia            | 711                           | 69,025    | 24                        | 14,031  | 1,898   | 85,689         | -                                    | 73,583  | 85.87                                     |
| Tasmania                     | 280                           | 27,249    | 16                        | 5,479   | 811     | 33,835         | -                                    | 22,737  | 67.20                                     |
| Australian Capital Territory | 3                             | 3,156     | 361                       | 325     | 75      | 3,920          | -                                    | 1,341   | 34.21                                     |
| Northern Territory           | 14                            | 1,801     | -                         | 318     | 12      | 2,145          | -                                    | 1,039   | 48.44                                     |
| Papua and New Guinea         | 179                           | 4,772     | 2                         | 1,117   | 15      | 6,085          | -                                    | 1,705   | 28.02                                     |
| Total :                      | 10,768                        | 1,229,993 | 24,794                    | 259,090 | 38,770  | 1,563,415      | -                                    | 995,155 | 63.65                                     |

\* Includes Commonwealth Trading Bank.  $\emptyset$  Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for the fourth Wednesday.

**TABLE 3 : PRIVATE TRADING BANKS : AVERAGES OF DEPOSITS AND ADVANCES**  
Quarter ended December, 1939 and Months of December, 1952 to 1955  
 (£'000)

| State or Territory | DEPOSITS                     |                  |                  |                        |                  |                  | ADVANCES                     |                |                |                        |                |                |
|--------------------|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                    | Quarter ended December, 1939 | Dec., 1952 *     | Dec., 1953 *     | Dec., 1954 $\emptyset$ | Nov., 1955       | Dec., 1955 *     | Quarter ended December, 1939 | Dec., 1952 *   | Dec., 1953 *   | Dec., 1954 $\emptyset$ | Nov., 1955     | Dec., 1955 *   |
|                    |                              |                  |                  |                        |                  |                  |                              |                |                |                        |                |                |
| New South Wales    | 120,962                      | 424,072          | 477,341          | 484,418                | 468,514          | 475,366          | 121,320                      | 258,941        | 272,773        | 319,383                | 347,112        | 341,304        |
| Victoria           | 116,789                      | 379,780          | 415,487          | 435,730                | 435,016          | 446,639          | 85,086                       | 202,342        | 198,103        | 226,381                | 232,123        | 231,364        |
| Queensland         | 39,761                       | 152,271          | 179,530          | 178,608                | 177,377          | 181,376          | 37,851                       | 93,838         | 101,951        | 122,304                | 120,985        | 119,454        |
| South Australia    | 25,357                       | 94,408           | 110,735          | 112,060                | 109,371          | 111,807          | 19,651                       | 34,098         | 34,409         | 42,221                 | 43,832         | 43,226         |
| Western Australia  | 14,974                       | 66,944           | 73,660           | 72,016                 | 67,616           | 68,525           | 23,925                       | 32,487         | 39,833         | 54,389                 | 57,397         | 57,234         |
| Tasmania           | 8,442                        | 25,021           | 26,820           | 28,020                 | 29,975           | 29,622           | 4,768                        | 14,739         | 16,305         | 18,314                 | 18,370         | 18,507         |
| Aust. Cap. Terr.   | 543                          | 1,881            | 2,076            | 2,214                  | 2,659            | 2,703            | 192                          | 519            | 714            | 1,098                  | 1,210          | 1,221          |
| Northern Territory | 271                          | 1,026            | 1,255            | 1,356                  | 1,554            | 1,619            | 60                           | 198            | 329            | 757                    | 968            | 948            |
| Papua & New Guinea | 4                            | 2,020            | 3,140            | 3,240                  | 3,718            | 3,871            | 4                            | 530            | 569            | 859                    | 1,263          | 1,221          |
| <b>Total :</b>     | <b>* 327,099</b>             | <b>1,147,429</b> | <b>1,290,044</b> | <b>1,317,662</b>       | <b>1,295,800</b> | <b>1,321,528</b> | <b>* 292,853</b>             | <b>637,692</b> | <b>664,986</b> | <b>785,706</b>         | <b>823,260</b> | <b>814,479</b> |

\* Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fourth Wednesday.  $\emptyset$  Banks were exempted from furnishing a return for fifth Wednesday.  
 † Not available.      \* Excludes Papua and New Guinea.

TABLE 4: PRIVATE TRADING BANKS: RATIO OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES TO TOTAL DEPOSITS \*

MONTHS OF DECEMBER, 1939 AND 1951 TO 1955.

(Per cent.)

| Month of December | Cash and Cash Balances<br>£ | Treasury Bills | Other Australian Public Securities | Special Accounts with Commonwealth Bank | Advances | Deposits not bearing Interest |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------|
| 1939              | 12.3                        | 8.3            | 7.6                                | -                                       | 85.7     | 39.4                          |
| 1951              | 5.6                         | 2.9            | 5.0                                | 39.0                                    | 50.3     | 80.7                          |
| 1952              | 6.9                         | 11.9           | 6.9                                | 13.6                                    | 55.6     | 81.1                          |
| 1953              | 6.4                         | 8.2            | 10.1                               | 19.4                                    | 51.6     | 80.9                          |
| 1954              | 5.3                         | 3.6            | 8.7                                | 19.7                                    | 59.6     | 80.2                          |
| 1955              | 5.4                         | 3.4            | 8.4                                | 17.6                                    | 61.6     | 80.4                          |

\* Based on deposits and assets of the banks within Australia and excludes London funds.  
 £ Coin, Bullion, Australian Notes and Cash with Commonwealth Bank (Central Bank) on current account.

TABLE 5: CHEQUE-PAYING BANKS: DEBITS TO CUSTOMERS' ACCOUNTS\*

(\$'000)

| State and Period                                | Metropolitan Area £    |         | Elsewhere | Total   |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|
|                                                 | Australian Governments | Other   |           |         |
| Average of four weeks ended 28th December, 1955 |                        |         |           |         |
| New South Wales                                 | 20,649                 | 164,295 | 49,822    | 234,766 |
| Victoria                                        | 9,037                  | 169,875 | 35,369    | 214,281 |
| Queensland                                      | 359                    | 32,163  | 27,470    | 59,992  |
| South Australia                                 | 79                     | 35,544  | 7,003     | 42,626  |
| Western Australia                               | 175                    | 23,472  | 5,288     | 28,935  |
| Tasmania                                        | 68                     | 5,545   | 6,301     | 11,914  |
| Australian Capital Territory                    | -                      | -       | 963       | 963     |
| TOTAL:                                          | 30,367                 | 430,894 | 132,216   | 593,477 |

Australia (excluding Northern Territory, Papua and New Guinea)

|                                |        |         |         |         |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Week ended 7th December, 1955  | 30,561 | 429,389 | 137,013 | 656,963 |
| Week ended 14th December, 1955 | 30,381 | 425,473 | 125,114 | 580,968 |
| Week ended 21st December, 1955 | 38,005 | 496,488 | 152,833 | 687,326 |
| Week ended 28th December, 1955 | 22,523 | 312,227 | 113,902 | 448,652 |

Weekly Average of Debits to Customers' Accounts, December, 1951 to 1955

(Excluding Debits to Australian Government Accounts at City Branches)

| Month          | N.S.W.  | VIC.    | Q'LD.  | S.A.   | W.A.   | TAS.   | A.C.T. | Total   |
|----------------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1951, December | 175,899 | 157,401 | 46,479 | 35,445 | 23,440 | 9,643  | 497    | 448,804 |
| 1952, December | 173,779 | 146,343 | 47,770 | 30,512 | 24,024 | 9,715  | 615    | 432,758 |
| 1953, December | 187,092 | 175,615 | 55,657 | 35,451 | 28,803 | 10,378 | 655    | 493,651 |
| 1954, December | 194,516 | 184,366 | 55,579 | 37,574 | 27,072 | 11,002 | 904    | 510,953 |
| 1955, January  | 173,836 | 165,919 | 52,019 | 34,298 | 27,572 | 9,141  | 932    | 463,717 |
| February       | 188,272 | 188,842 | 53,238 | 37,149 | 26,206 | 10,178 | 775    | 504,660 |
| March          | 185,973 | 187,094 | 50,262 | 38,520 | 27,077 | 12,051 | 874    | 501,851 |
| April          | 185,478 | 174,628 | 51,402 | 36,058 | 25,601 | 10,706 | 944    | 484,817 |
| May            | 203,283 | 191,690 | 56,498 | 39,311 | 28,211 | 12,093 | 999    | 532,085 |
| June           | 206,050 | 182,293 | 56,562 | 38,485 | 25,035 | 12,569 | 927    | 521,921 |
| July           | 201,657 | 183,832 | 59,393 | 37,839 | 26,063 | 11,010 | 926    | 520,720 |
| August         | 186,910 | 167,255 | 53,213 | 36,043 | 23,884 | 11,149 | 851    | 479,305 |
| September      | 193,695 | 169,298 | 56,751 | 36,280 | 25,532 | 10,753 | 1,020  | 493,329 |
| October        | 202,869 | 183,846 | 57,045 | 37,556 | 25,924 | 10,986 | 1,001  | 519,227 |
| November       | 216,066 | 196,141 | 57,731 | 41,543 | 27,656 | 11,207 | 1,028  | 551,372 |
| December       | 214,117 | 205,244 | 59,633 | 42,547 | 28,760 | 11,846 | 963    | 563,110 |

\* Includes, in addition to banks covered by Table 1, the Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments of the Commonwealth Bank. Debits to Customers' accounts resulting from the transfer of accounts from The Queensland National Bank Ltd., (in vol. liq.) and The Ballarat Banking Co. Ltd. (in vol. liq.) to The National Bank of Australasia Ltd., have been excluded.

£ The "Free of Exchange" area in capital cities.

£ At the banks' city branches only.

r Revised.

TABLE 6 : BANK CLEARINGS, SIX CAPITAL CITIES : DECEMBER, 1939 AND 1951 TO 1955.

Averages of Weekly Clearings\*  
(£'000)

| Month         | Sydney  | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth  | Hobart | Total   |
|---------------|---------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|--------|---------|
| 1939 December | 21,480  | 20,184    | 4,867    | 3,091    | 2,317  | 617    | 52,556  |
| 1951 December | 103,400 | 90,497    | 20,065   | 18,650   | 12,731 | 2,964  | 248,307 |
| 1952 December | 93,024  | 79,392    | 18,719   | 16,086   | 12,145 | 2,774  | 222,140 |
| 1953 December | 100,489 | 90,294    | 22,478   | 19,253   | 14,971 | 3,097  | 250,582 |
| 1954 December | 106,759 | 95,831    | 21,917   | 20,427   | 14,413 | 3,546  | 262,893 |
| 1955 January  | 81,020  | 79,034    | 18,303   | 16,051   | 12,816 | 2,411  | 209,635 |
| February      | 101,999 | 92,383    | 21,446   | 20,206   | 14,225 | 3,810  | 254,069 |
| March         | 101,969 | 96,295    | 20,598   | 20,651   | 14,247 | 4,278  | 258,038 |
| April         | 100,451 | 98,229    | 20,993   | 20,291   | 13,766 | 3,766  | 257,496 |
| May           | 116,811 | 112,169   | 24,497   | 20,991   | 14,685 | 4,304  | 293,457 |
| June          | 120,323 | 103,546   | 23,320   | 20,932   | 12,935 | 4,452  | 285,508 |
| July          | 110,369 | 98,173    | 23,764   | 20,463   | 13,320 | 4,142  | 270,231 |
| August        | 99,311  | 90,368    | 20,602   | 18,600   | 12,223 | 3,489  | 244,593 |
| September     | 105,773 | 92,103    | 22,933   | 19,796   | 13,026 | 3,645  | 257,276 |
| October       | 112,751 | 104,284   | 23,765   | 20,915   | 13,656 | 3,667  | 279,038 |
| November      | 116,283 | 106,020   | 23,665   | 21,790   | 14,469 | 3,716  | 285,943 |
| December      | 115,820 | 108,693   | 23,901   | 21,978   | 14,838 | 3,897  | 289,127 |

\* Excludes transactions connected with the issue and redemption of Treasury Bills.

TABLE 7 : AUSTRALIAN NOTE ISSUE

Value of Notes Outstanding on last Wednesday in December, 1939 and 1952 to 1955.

(£'000)

| Denomination   | December 1939 | December 1952 | December 1953 | December 1954 | November 1955 | December 1955 |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 10/-           | 4,806         | 10,340        | 10,571        | 10,912        | 10,466        | 11,241        |
| £1             | 25,805        | 73,269        | 73,780        | 75,896        | 68,851        | 75,106        |
| £5             | 15,254        | 165,293       | 182,781       | 194,831       | 183,199       | 205,005       |
| £10            | 6,613         | 92,856        | 95,916        | 109,382       | 110,042       | 121,939       |
| £20            | 96            | 6             | 6             | 6             | 4             | 4             |
| £50            | 1,563         | 54            | 52            | 50            | 47            | 47            |
| £100           | 2,615         | 60            | 58            | 55            | 51            | 50            |
| £1,000         | 523           | 540           | 449           | 695           | 843           | 611           |
| Held by Banks  | 13,009        | 42,713        | 46,995        | 52,223        | 41,466        | 54,935        |
| Held by Public | 44,266        | 299,705       | 316,618       | 339,604       | 332,037       | 359,068       |
| TOTAL          | 57,275        | 342,418       | 363,613       | 391,827       | 373,503       | 414,003       |

Value of Notes Outstanding on Wednesday of each Week, December, 1955.

| Date                   | Held by Banks | Held by Public | Total   |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------|
| 7th December, 1955.    | 44,462        | 334,041        | 378,503 |
| 14th " "               | 48,463        | 336,040        | 384,503 |
| 21st " "               | 52,000        | 360,503        | 412,503 |
| 28th " "               | 54,935        | 359,068        | 414,003 |
| Average for four weeks | 49,965        | 347,413        | 397,378 |

TABLE 8 : COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

## RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS

Averages of Liabilities and Assets within Australia, July, 1955 to December, 1955.\*  
(Excluding Capital, Inter-branch Accounts and Contingencies).  
(£'000)

(1'000)

| Month                                                                           | De-<br>posits | Other<br>liabil-<br>ities | Loans, Advances<br>etc.      |        | Aust. Govt.<br>Securities |       | Other<br>Secur-<br>ities | Other<br>Assets<br>(incl.<br>Cash<br>Balances) |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|-------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                 |               |                           | Loans on<br>Hire<br>Purchase | Other  | Treasury<br>Bills         | Other |                          |                                                |
| <u>Rural Credits Department</u>                                                 |               |                           |                              |        |                           |       |                          |                                                |
| 1955 July                                                                       | 2,163         | 50,510                    | -                            | 57,103 | -                         | -     | -                        | 399                                            |
| August                                                                          | 2,100         | 43,484                    | -                            | 50,155 | -                         | -     | -                        | 401                                            |
| September                                                                       | 1,245         | 44,507                    | -                            | 50,355 | -                         | -     | -                        | 403                                            |
| October                                                                         | 1,656         | 45,779                    | -                            | 52,037 | -                         | -     | -                        | 403                                            |
| November                                                                        | 1,658         | 40,432                    | -                            | 46,689 | -                         | -     | -                        | 403                                            |
| December                                                                        | 506           | 45,271                    | -                            | 50,353 | -                         | -     | -                        | 404                                            |
| <u>Mortgage Bank Department</u>                                                 |               |                           |                              |        |                           |       |                          |                                                |
| 1955 July                                                                       | -             | 2                         | -                            | 5,050  | 450                       | 248   | -                        | 105                                            |
| August                                                                          | -             | -                         | -                            | 5,072  | 650                       | 297   | -                        | 116                                            |
| September                                                                       | -             | -                         | -                            | 5,081  | 450                       | 495   | -                        | 101                                            |
| October                                                                         | -             | -                         | -                            | 5,092  | 438                       | 495   | -                        | 103                                            |
| November                                                                        | -             | 1                         | -                            | 5,095  | 420                       | 495   | -                        | 144                                            |
| December                                                                        | -             | -                         | -                            | 5,059  | 500                       | 495   | -                        | 187                                            |
| <u>Industrial Finance Department</u>                                            |               |                           |                              |        |                           |       |                          |                                                |
| 1955 July                                                                       | 182           | 18,924                    | 16,853                       | 8,357  | -                         | 2,072 | 568                      | 654                                            |
| August                                                                          | 169           | 19,072                    | 16,919                       | 8,649  | -                         | 2,072 | 566                      | 716                                            |
| September                                                                       | 174           | 19,190                    | 16,940                       | 8,792  | -                         | 2,226 | 568                      | 516                                            |
| October                                                                         | 199           | 19,329                    | 16,995                       | 8,880  | -                         | 2,380 | 568                      | 372                                            |
| November                                                                        | 182           | 19,762                    | 17,200                       | 9,102  | -                         | 2,380 | 572                      | 349                                            |
| December                                                                        | 180           | 19,942                    | 17,268                       | 9,411  | -                         | 2,180 | 580                      | 361                                            |
| <u>Rural Credits, Mortgage Bank and Industrial Finance Departments Combined</u> |               |                           |                              |        |                           |       |                          |                                                |
| 1955 July                                                                       | 2,345         | 69,436                    | 16,853                       | 70,510 | 450                       | 2,320 | 568                      | 1,158                                          |
| August                                                                          | 2,269         | 62,556                    | 16,919                       | 63,876 | 650                       | 2,369 | 566                      | 1,233                                          |
| September                                                                       | 1,419         | 63,697                    | 16,940                       | 64,228 | 450                       | 2,721 | 568                      | 1,020                                          |
| October                                                                         | 1,855         | 65,108                    | 16,995                       | 66,009 | 438                       | 2,875 | 568                      | 878                                            |
| November                                                                        | 1,840         | 60,195                    | 17,200                       | 60,886 | 420                       | 2,875 | 572                      | 896                                            |
| December                                                                        | 686           | 65,213                    | 17,268                       | 64,823 | 500                       | 2,675 | 580                      | 952                                            |

\* Three weeks only.

TABLE 9 : COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

## RURAL CREDITS, MORTGAGE BANK AND INDUSTRIAL FINANCE DEPARTMENTS

Averages of Loans, Advances and Bills Discounted - December, 1955.\*  
(£'000)

| State             | Rural<br>Credits<br>Department | Mortgage<br>Bank<br>Department | Industrial Finance<br>Department |              | Total         |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------|
|                   |                                |                                | Hire<br>Purchase                 | Other        |               |
| New South Wales Ø | 256                            | 1,313                          | 7,020                            | 4,784        | 13,373        |
| Victoria          | 47,720                         | 1,933                          | 4,280                            | 1,485        | 55,418        |
| Queensland /      | 1,989                          | 927                            | 2,877                            | 95           | 5,888         |
| South Australia * | 272                            | 442                            | 1,227                            | 2,354        | 4,295         |
| Western Australia | 68                             | 204                            | 1,156                            | 591          | 2,019         |
| Tasmania          | 48                             | 240                            | 708                              | 102          | 1,098         |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>     | <b>50,353</b>                  | <b>5,059</b>                   | <b>17,268</b>                    | <b>9,411</b> | <b>82,091</b> |

\* Three weeks only.

Ø Includes Australian Capital Territory.

/ Includes Papua and New Guinea

\* Includes Northern Territory.

**TABLE 10: COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA**  
**CENTRAL BANKING BUSINESS (INCLUDING NOTE ISSUE DEPARTMENT)**  
**Averages of Liabilities and Assets in Australia and elsewhere**

| Particulars                                               | December, 1952 to 1955. |                    |                   |                   |                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|                                                           | December,<br>1952*      | December,<br>1953* | December,<br>1954 | November,<br>1955 | December,<br>1955* |
| <b>LIABILITIES (£'000)</b>                                |                         |                    |                   |                   |                    |
| Capital and Reserve Funds                                 | 11,160                  | 12,106             | 13,565            | 15,325            | 15,325             |
| Notes on Issue                                            | 328,355                 | 346,926            | 367,389           | 372,803           | 391,836            |
| Special Accounts of Trading Banks                         | 157,595                 | 275,702            | 295,670           | 265,444           | 265,444            |
| Other Deposits of Trading Banks                           | 44,933                  | 48,968             | 36,268            | 34,820            | 36,484             |
| Other Liabilities                                         | 279,163                 | 287,755            | 235,716           | 208,666           | 205,202            |
| <b>Total:</b>                                             | <b>821,206</b>          | <b>971,457</b>     | <b>948,608</b>    | <b>897,058</b>    | <b>914,291</b>     |
| <b>ASSETS (£'000)</b>                                     |                         |                    |                   |                   |                    |
| Gold and Balances held abroad                             | 338,556                 | 511,794            | 417,718           | 300,983           | 297,599            |
| Australian Coin                                           | 1,985                   | 1,288              | 1,767             | 2,158             | 1,661              |
| Cheques and Bills of other Banks                          | 6,204                   | 6,406              | 7,320             | 5,907             | 5,891              |
| Government and other Securities<br>(Incl. Treasury Bills) | 439,089                 | 432,035            | 471,072           | 535,339           | 552,757            |
| Bills receivable and Remittances<br>in transit            | 26                      | 2,449              | 3,111             | 3,374             | 4,786              |
| Other Assets                                              | 35,346                  | 17,485             | 47,620            | 49,297            | 51,597             |
| <b>Total:</b>                                             | <b>821,206</b>          | <b>971,457</b>     | <b>948,608</b>    | <b>897,058</b>    | <b>914,291</b>     |

\* Figures for fourth week not available. † Figures for fifth week not available.

**TABLE 11: INTEREST RATES 25TH JANUARY, 1956**

| Particulars                                                          | Rate<br>per<br>Annum          | Date from<br>which<br>Operative | Previous<br>Rate per<br>Annum  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Commonwealth Bank of Australia -                                     | $\frac{3}{4}\%$               |                                 | $\frac{3}{4}\%$                |
| Rural Credits Department - Govt. guaranteed loans                    | $3\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | $3\frac{1}{4}\%$               |
| - Other                                                              | 4                             | 1/ 8/52                         | $3\frac{1}{2}\%$               |
| Mortgage Bank Department Loans - 5 to 20 years                       | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | 4                              |
| - over 20 years                                                      | $4\frac{3}{4}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$               |
| Industrial Finance Department - Term Loans                           | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$               |
| Commonwealth Savings Bank - Loans to Local Government<br>Authorities | $4\frac{1}{4}-4\frac{1}{2}\%$ | 23/10/52                        | 4 11/16<br>to $4\frac{1}{2}\%$ |
| - Credit Foncier Housing Loans                                       | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | $3\frac{1}{2}\%$               |
| Commonwealth Trading Bank* - Overdraft - General                     | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$               |
| - Local Government<br>Authorities                                    | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | 4                              |
| Other Trading Banks - Overdraft (Maximum Rate)                       | 5                             | 1/ 8/52                         | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$               |
| Life Assurance Companies - Loans on own Policies                     | 5-5 $\frac{1}{2}\%$           | 1/ 4/54                         | 5                              |
| Commonwealth Loans - Long Term                                       | $4\frac{1}{2}\%$              | 25/11/52                        | $3\frac{3}{4}\%$               |
| Treasury Bills (Discount Rates)                                      | 1                             | 1/ 8/52                         | $\frac{3}{4}\%$                |
| Fixed Deposits with Trading Banks - 3 Months                         | $1\frac{1}{2}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | 1                              |
| 6 Months                                                             | $1\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | $1\frac{1}{4}\%$               |
| 12 Months                                                            | $1\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | $1\frac{1}{4}\%$               |
| 24 Months                                                            | 2                             | 1/ 1/55                         | 1 $\frac{1}{2}\%$              |
| Savings Banks - Deposits other than Fixed Deposits -                 |                               |                                 |                                |
| Commonwealth Savings Bank - £1 to £500                               | $2\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | $2\frac{1}{4}\%$               |
| - £501 to £1,500 †                                                   | $1\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | 1                              |
| State Savings Bank of Victoria - £1 to £500                          | $2\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | $2\frac{1}{4}\%$               |
| - £501 to £1,500 †                                                   | $1\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 8/52                         | 1                              |
| Savings Bank of South Australia - £1 to £750                         | $2\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | *                              |
| - £751 to £1,500 †                                                   | $1\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | *                              |
| Trustee Savings Banks, Hobart & Launceston £1 to £450                | $2\frac{1}{4}\%$              | 1/ 1/55                         | $2\frac{1}{4}\%$               |

\* Rates quoted prior to 3rd December, 1953, are for the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. †  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$  on amounts in excess of £10,000. ‡ No interest is payable on amounts in excess of £1,500 except on deposits in Friendly and other society accounts. The current rates for these accounts are:- on amounts up to £2,000,  $2\frac{1}{2}\%$ ; £2,001 and over  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ . \* Prior to 1st January, 1955 interest rates payable by the Savings Bank of South Australia were as follows:- deposits £1-£500,  $2\frac{1}{4}\%$ ; £501-£1,500,  $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ .

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