

MORNING PAPERS : THURSDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1949.
EVENING PAPERS : THURSDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 1949.
BROADCASTING STATIONS : MIDNIGHT, WEDNESDAY, 7TH SEPTEMBER, 1949.

NEW BUILDING STATISTICS : YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1949.

VALUE OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED

The total annual value of all new buildings completed in Australia has risen over the past four years from £21,491,000 to £88,861,000, viz.:- 1945-46 - £21,491,000; 1946-47 - £42,009,000; 1947-48 - £62,736,000; 1948-49 - £88,861,000.

This increase from 1945-46 to 1948-49 has been general in all States, viz. in New South Wales from £9,305,000 to £33,737,000; Victoria, £5,471,000 to £27,357,000; Queensland, £3,320,000 to £12,016,000; South Australia, £1,682,000 to £6,483,000; Western Australia, £974,000 to £4,707,000; Tasmania, £627,000 to £3,810,000, and in the Australian Capital Territory from £112,000 to £751,000.

The major increase has been in the value of new houses completed, which has risen from £14,458,000 in 1945-46 to £35,694,000 in 1946-47, to £53,185,000 in 1947-48 and to £73,184,000 in 1948-49. The value of other new buildings (i.e. excluding houses) completed has increased from £7,033,00 in 1945-46 to £15,677,000 in 1948-49.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES

(NOTE : All figures herein relating to houses include those built by owner-builders. They do not include converted military huts, flats and shop dwellings. Some houses built on farms are excluded but these do not affect the figures materially).

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED - The number of new houses completed in Australia increased from 15,376 in 1945-46 to 32,607 in 1946-47 to 43,457 in 1947-48 and to 51,232 in 1948-49. Increases in each State were as follows:- in New South Wales from 5,596 in 1945-46 to 17,864 in 1948-49; Victoria, 3,666 to 14,278; Queensland, 3,385 to 9,247; South Australia, 1,332 to 3,989; Western Australia, 860 to 3,244; Tasmania, 479 to 2,287 and Australian Capital Territory from 58 to 323.

NEW HOUSES COMMENCED - The number of new houses commenced in Australia during 1948-49 was 57,816 compared with 47,243 in 1946-47.

The number of houses commenced after the war, increased in each quarter, with one exception, until September quarter 1947 when it reached 14,198. The number commenced in the next three quarters was slightly below this total until September quarter 1948 when the total for the quarter was 14,722. Subsequent quarters have been slightly below this figure.

NEW HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION - The number of houses being commenced is still considerably larger than the number being completed in each quarter, consequently the number of houses under construction has increased from 21,408 at 30th June, 1946 to 45,866 at 30th June, 1948/ to 52,556 at 30th June, 1949.

PERSONS ENGAGED

(Excluding persons working as or for owner builders.)

The number of persons working as or for building contractors in Australia has increased from 34,669 at 30th September, 1945 to 84,907 at 30th June, 1947 to 97,905 at 30th June, 1948 and to 104,883 at 30th June, 1949.

There have been general increases in all types of tradesmen engaged over the past three years. The number of carpenters engaged has risen from 24,743 at 30th June, 1946 to 43,349 at 30th June, 1949; bricklayers, 6,259 to 9,541; painters, 5,639 to 8,903; electricians, 2,936 to 5,076; plumbers, 5,417 to 8,214; builder's labourers, 11,322 to 16,811; and other persons engaged, 8,944 to 12,989. These figures include all contractors and sub-contractors who were actually working on jobs.

.... / (Note

(NOTE : The foregoing employment figures relate to persons who were working as or for contractors and who were actually engaged in the erection of new buildings on a specified day. The figures also include some employees engaged on alterations, additions, renovations or repairs to buildings when these jobs were undertaken by a contractor who builds new buildings. All persons working on owner-builder houses are excluded).

ROLAND WILSON

COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

7TH SEPTEMBER, 1949.