

and Melbourne were also available, and from these two series the construction of an effective wage index then became possible. The chief difficulty arose, however, in connexion with the adjustment of effective wages for unemployment, the real crux of the matter for our purpose.

An estimate of unemployment for these years had, therefore, also to be made; and the method used was that of calculating the average of employment or, to use a shorter term, the norm. From the figures given by Coghlan it was calculated that,

TABLE XVIII

Percentage of Unemployment, New South Wales and Victoria

Year.	Number of employees in factories. ¹			Per cent. employed.	Per cent. unemployed.
	Victoria.	N. S. Wales.	Total.		
	(Thousands.)	(Thousands.)			
1890 . . .	56-369	51-300	107-666	94-5	5-5
1891 . . .	54-413	50-879	105-292	92-4	* 7-6 (9-3)
1892 . . .	45-415	47-916	93-331	81-8	18-2
1893 . . .	41-729	42-057	83-786	73-5	26-5
1894 . . .	43-319	46-502	89-821	78-8	21-2
1895 . . .	47-646	48-030	95-676	83-9	16-1
1896 . . .	50-397	49-840	100-237	87-9	*12-1 (10-8)
1897 . . .	52-650	51-439	104-089	91-3	8-7
1898 . . .	54-778	52-518	107-296	†(115) 93-6	6-4
1899 . . .	60-070	55-646	115-716	†(122) 94-9	5-1
1900 . . .	64-207	60-779	124-986	†(130) 96-1	3-9
1901 . . .	66-529	66-230	132-759	†(141) 94-1	*5-9 (6-6)

* Figure in brackets Commonwealth Bureau of Statistics estimate, Labour Report, No. 2.

† Norm raised to correspond to growth of population.

exclusive of aborigines, 5 per cent. of the population of New South Wales and Victoria was engaged in manufacture of some kind. This would give for the two colonies mentioned a norm of 113-63 thousands for 1891, when the population totalled 2,272,637. If a different line be pursued and calculations made for each state separately of the employment in peak years, say 1886 for New South Wales and 1888 for Victoria, a norm of 56 for New South Wales and 58 for Victoria or a total of 114 is obtained. Since population was nearly stationary for the years between 1890 and 1897 these results are sufficiently close to

¹ *Statistical Registers of New South Wales and Victoria; and Coghlan, Statistical Account of Australia and New Zealand.*