



annual report 1955-56

CANBERRA

and the australian capital territory

ANNUAL REPORT
on the
ADMINISTRATION AND DEVELOPMENT
of
CANBERRA
and the
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 1956

January 1957

Department of the Interior,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

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BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

The construction of the city went ahead at a faster rate during 1955-56. The total expenditure by the Department of Works on new work, maintenance and repairs for this year and the previous year was:

	<u>1954/55</u>	<u>1955/56</u>
<u>Architectural Works</u>		
Housing	1,579,280	2,556,512
Other building	<u>1,767,620</u>	<u>2,164,699</u>
	3,346,900	4,721,211
<u>Engineering Works</u>	815,113	1,015,079
<u>Repairs and maintenance</u>		
Architectural	335,854	415,864
Engineering	<u>264,632</u>	<u>366,595</u>
	600,486	782,459
<u>Purchase of Plant</u>		<u>73,400</u>
TOTAL	<u>£4,762,499</u> =====	<u>£6,592,149</u> =====

The increase in expenditure shown above was 38.5%.

Housing

The Department of Works built 446 houses and 8 flats, a total increase of 134 compared with the previous year. They comprised the following types:

	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Day Labour</u>	<u>Total</u>
Brick	55	-	55
Brick veneer	107	-	107
Timber	157	24	181
Monocrete	102	-	102
Masonry veneer	1	-	1
Brick flats	8	-	8
	<u>430</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>454</u>
	====	==	====

They comprised the following dwellings for the various authorities shown:

Suturb	Type	Dept. of Interior	War Service Homes	Dept. of Army	Total
Ainslie	Brick	6			
	Brick flats	8			
	Timber	37			
	Monocrete	26			77
Deakin	Brick	22	3		
	Brick veneer	12			
	Timber	19			
	Monocrete	28			
	Masonry veneer	1			85
Duntroon	Brick veneer			14	
	Monocrete			12	26
Forrest	Brick		1		1
Griffith	Brick		1		1
Narrabundah	Brick	7			
	Brick veneer	43			
	Timber	96			
	Monocrete	14			160
O'Connor	Brick	10			
	Brick veneer	23			
	Timber	16	1		
	Monocrete	21	1		72
Turner	Brick		1		1
Yarralumla	Brick		4		
	Brick veneer	15			
	Timber	7			26
Kowen	Timber	1			1
Uriarra	Timber	4			4
TOTAL		416	12	26	454

At 30th June 1956, the erection of 851 dwelling units had been authorised, of which 845 were under construction. Of the total, 812 were to be constructed by contract and 39 by day labour. The majority consist of a group of brick flats in Braddon-Reid (440) and houses in Ainslie (52), Narrabundah (86), Yarralumla (90), Deakin (26) and O'Connor (27).

The types of houses are:

Brick	69
Brick veneer	51
Timber	118
Monocrete	165

Eight hundred and twenty one of the total number will be built for the Department of the Interior, three for the Department of the Army, 11 for the Department of Air and the remainder (16) will be War Service homes.

Building by private enterprise

During 1955/56 ninety-four houses, 12 flats, 12 business premises and 7 industrial buildings were completed for private owners.

Other building construction

The following projects were brought to completion during the year: Canberra Olympic Swimming Pool, Yarralumla Infants School, additional accommodation for nurses at Canberra Community Hospital, Baby Health Centre at Throsby Crescent, Griffith, block "A" of the Administrative Building, Parkes (except for portion of the lower ground floor), Rutherford Crescent Pre-School Centre, additional classrooms at Ainslie Primary School and improvements to the Hotel Canberra and the Canberra City Post Office.

Other construction included additional storage accommodation for the Australian War Memorial, a new moulding shop at the Department of Works sawmill and additional accommodation for the Department of Works stores at Kingston, the provision of further dressing shed accommodation at Reid, Narrabundah and Griffith sports grounds and the installation of crushing and screening plant and associated buildings at the Mugga Quarry.

The main projects under construction at the end of the year were: Administrative Building, Parkes; primary schools at Turner, Griffith and Yarralumla, and alterations and additions to the Canberra High School; reinstatement of fire damaged premises at the Melbourne Buildings; air-conditioned insectary for C.S.I.R.O. at Black Mountain; public toilet and transformer building at Garema Place; new kiln (and re-conditioning of existing kilns) at the Canberra Brickworks; services building, new boiler house etc. and new sergeant's mess at Royal Military College, Duntroon; ratings recreation building and wireless transmitting station, H.M.A.S. Harman; new airmen's sleeping quarters, R.A.A.F. Station, Fairbairn; extensions and alterations to chilling halls at Canberra Abattoir; new depot for electrical linesmen at Kingston; additional stores accommodation, Department of Works, Kingston; office, amenities building, garages and blacksmith's shop, Roads and Bridges Dept., Fyshwick.

Architectural maintenance

During 1955/56, urgent and minor requests for repairs averaged about 400 per week. Expenditure for this kind of work on housing alone exceeded £80,000.

It is proposed to increase maintenance work during 1956/57, with particular emphasis on internal and external house painting.

Roads and bridges

Sub-divisional roads were constructed in Ainslie, Fyshwick, Narrabundah, Campbell, Griffith and Yarralumla. Portion of London Circuit was widened, reconstruction of the Cooma Road proceeded and the realignment of Kambah Lane was completed. Roads, kerbs, gutters, paths and a parking area for the Olympic Swimming Pool were also provided.

About 19.6 miles of roads (12.5 miles city and 7.1 miles country) were bitumen sealed and 17.8 miles of road resealed. Considerable maintenance was carried out on country roads and city streets, much of which was made necessary by excessive rainfall and storm damage.

At 30th June 1956 there were 221.98 miles of streets in the city area (of which 127.59 were concrete or bitumen) and 352.7 miles of roads in the country areas (61.1 miles bitumen). About seven miles of footpaths in the city area were constructed, bringing the total length at 30th June 1956 to 130.775 miles.

The main bridge construction work comprised the completion of three bridges over Sullivan's Creek, the Woden Creek Bridge and the Guises Creek Bridge (about 90% complete). Tharwa Road Bridge was widened by eight feet and a number of other bridges were redecked and rekerbed.

Water supply, sewerage and drainage

The total length of new mains placed in service during the year was 47,348 feet.

The total consumption of water during the year was 1,614,275,000 gallons (averaging 137 gallons per head per day). At 30th June 1956, 7,520 houses and other buildings were connected to the water supply system.

The total length of new sewerage mains placed in service was 61,811 feet. Buildings connected to the system at 30th June 1956 totalled 7,238.

New stormwater mains placed in service totalled 48,275 feet in length.

Major projects under construction at 30th June 1956 included: sewer and stormwater drains in Yarralumla, Campbell, Braddon, Ainslie, Narrabundah, Griffith and Kingston; northern suburbs outfall sewer; 24" sewer main between Gould and Condamine streets; main outfall sewer, Condamine Street to Motel; 24" water main, lower Red Hill to London Circuit; 27" water main, London Circuit to Froggatt Street; deepening and widening of cut-off drains, Ainslie; augmentation of Canberra Sewage Treatment Plant, Western Creek.

Electricity services

Major low tension extensions, concurrent with building development, were carried out in Yarralumla, Narrabundah, Griffith, O'Connor and Ainslie. Extension of the street lighting system was also carried out in these areas.

More than 2,000 yards of heavy 11,000 volt cable were laid in north Braddon and Reid to cater for the major flat construction projects there. Thirty-five substations were added during the year, the main ones being a 1,000 K.V.A. indoor substation at Garema Place, a 500 K.V.A. kiosk for the new Mugga Quarry and two 250 K.V.A. substations to meet future demand in the industrial area at Fyshwick.

The main rural development consisted of the erection of nine miles of 11,000 volt steel line and the provision of eight substations in the Tidbinbilla district.

Energy purchases for the year totalled 72,000,000 kilowatt hours (increase of 14.9%) and maximum demand was 18,000 kilowatts (increase of 18.4%). Consumers totalled 9,953.

Calls made by the radio patrol maintenance service totalled 19,800.

Industrial undertakings

The Canberra Brickworks, operated by the Department of the Interior, produced 8,471,875 salable bricks.

Industrial undertakings operated by the Department of Works were sawmills, quarries and a cement products factory. The main products were:

Sawn hardwood	735,208	super feet
Radiata pine (sawn)	1,741,658	super feet
Crushed aggregate	55,014	tons
Sand	16,116	cubic yards
Cement products (value)	£17,624	

Works planned

Design work on many of the building and engineering proposals shown below was begun during 1955/56. It is proposed to complete the design and commit to construction during 1956/57 the following projects:

Schools Infants school at north Ainslie and extensions to Telopea Park High School.

Housing Group of 248 flats, Northbourne Avenue.

Public facilities Improvements at Canberra Community Hospital; public conveniences at recreation areas.

Research Plant Industry Laboratory, C.S.I.R.O. Black Mountain.

Roads

Continuation of reconstruction, Cooma Road; bridges over O'Sullivan's Creek at David and Wattle streets; new subdivisional roads.

Industrial
(Government)

Extensions and additions to lubricatorium, Transport Depot; electrical workshop, Kingston; bitumen hot mix plant and sand preparation plant, Department of Works; continuation of Canberra Brickworks reconstruction; improvements to Works Department hostels, stores and industrial undertakings; two new depots and improvement of existing depots, Parks and Gardens Section.

Water supply,
sewerage etc.

Water supply, sewerage and stormwater drainage for new subdivisions.

Employment

Manpower required to carry out the works programme
was:

<u>Construction</u>	<u>30th June 1956</u>
Day labour employees:	
Housing	39
General building	45
Engineering	157
Contractor's employees:	
Housing	631
General building	316
Engineering	214
	<u>1402</u>
<u>Maintenance (day labour)</u>	
Building	173
Engineering	163
	<u>336</u>
<u>Industrial undertakings</u> (day labour)	456
<u>Professional and administrative</u>	419
TOTAL	<u>2613</u>

The total at 30th June 1955 was 2760. There were decreases in day labour employees engaged on engineering work (264 to 157) and contractor's employees engaged on general building (509 to 316), but an increase in contractor's employees engaged on engineering work (75 to 214).

Industrial conditions

There was only one industrial dispute in the Australian Capital Territory during the year. There were 16 workmen involved; working days lost totalled 144 and estimated loss of wages was £620.

PLANNING AND GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

Senate Select Committee

In November 1954 the Senate appointed a select committee to "inquire into and report upon the development of Canberra in relation to the original plan and subsequent modifications, and matters incidental thereto". After hearing evidence in a number of places from some 83 witnesses the committee reported back to the Senate on 29th September 1955. The report which contained 76 recommendations, was submitted under the following headings: Canberra and the Canberra Plan; Development of Canberra; Variations of the Original Plan; Adequacy of the Present Plan; Future Development of Canberra; Future Government of Canberra.

The Senate debated the motion "that the Report of the Select Committee on the Development of Canberra be considered" on a number of occasions and finally resolved the question in the affirmative on 8th June 1956.

Town Planning

Street layouts and subdivisional designs were completed for new residential areas in O'Connor, Ainslie, Lyneham, Dickson, and Yarralumla. Schematic road layouts were completed for north Dickson, north Lyneham, west O'Connor, north Yarralumla and south Red Hill.

Layouts and subdivisions for suburban shopping areas in Lyneham and Deakin were also prepared. Sites were decided upon for a number of schools, service stations and buildings for religious purposes.

Further studies were made of traffic circulation, parking, population, schools, approaches to future river crossings and the location of the rail terminal.

Leases

A total of 509 leases was granted during the year, as follows:

Residential	445
Business	12
Industrial	46
Theatre	1
Clubs	4
Religious	1
	<u>509</u>

Surveys

The survey and marking were completed of 1100 sites in Canberra for residential, business and special purposes; in rural areas, 24 surveys were made.

The following engineering surveys were carried out: contours (1100 acres to one foot interval); roads 24 miles (centre line and cross sections); kerbing and guttering 12 miles; sewerage 17 miles; stormwater 15 miles; water supply 6 miles; precise levelling 5 miles.

Other miscellaneous surveys included the survey and marking of locations for transmission lines and P.M.G. cables, identifications for new buildings, check surveys for new business premises and controls for flood investigation of the Lakes Scheme.

Two survey parties worked almost throughout the year upon the investigation into dam sites and access roads in the upper Cotter Valley.

LEGISLATION AND LAW ADMINISTRATION

Important amendments were made during the year to the Liquor Ordinance. On 1 October 1955, 10 o'clock closing for hotels was introduced, and on 21 June 1956, trading hours for clubs became unlimited whilst hours for restaurants were extended so that liquor could be served with meals from noon to midnight except on Christmas Day, Good Friday and Sundays and from noon to 10 p.m. on Christmas Day and Sundays. Provision was also made for two new kinds of licence: a Liquor Merchant's Licence (permitting the holder to sell liquor to any person whether the holder of a licence or not in quantities of not less than two gallons at any one time) and a Community Hotel Licence. This may be granted to an organisation approved by the Minister, if its profits are to be used for specified public purposes; such a hotel is not required to provide immediately the accommodation required of an ordinary residential hotel.

Since the early days of Canberra a bus service has been run as one of the functions reasonably involved in the administration of the Territory. The Commonwealth Motor Omnibus Services Ordinance 1955 placed the operation of the service on a statutory basis.

The Hire-purchase Agreements Ordinance 1955 was introduced dealing with the duties and rights of vendors and purchasers under a hire purchase agreement.

Prior to 21 May 1956 the Motor Traffic Ordinance provided for the licensing of public hire cars and private hire cars. In fact there were no private hire cars operating. As from that date the provisions were altered to provide for the operation of taxis and private hire cars.

All ordinances and regulations of the Territory are laid on the table of each House of Parliament and may be disallowed by a resolution of either House. This is a power which is rarely exercised but when an amendment of the Leases Regulations omitted a restriction on the value of land which may be held by one person, the Senate disallowed the regulation. It thought that further consideration should be given to whether there should be a statutory limitation on the amount of leasehold land which could be held by one individual.

The amendment had increased the term for which leases of rural land could be granted from 25 to 50 years. This was disallowed although the Senate had no quarrel with this principle. The effect of the disallowance was that the period for which leases of rural land may be granted became unlimited.

The Optometrists Ordinance 1956 provided for the first time in the Territory for the registration of optometrists and prescribed the qualifications of persons to be registered. Unregistered persons are forbidden to practise as optometrists.

Courts and Titles

The volume of business transacted by the Courts and Titles Office is shown in Appendix A.

Coroner

Enquiries conducted by the Coroner were:

Inquests into deaths	28
Inquiries into fires	<u>1</u>
	29
	<u> </u>

PUBLIC HEALTH

Canberra Community Hospital

The Hospital, with a capacity of 250 beds, provided its usual services in the general, obstetric, children's and isolation wards, the tuberculosis chalet and the physiotherapy and X-ray departments. A radiologist continued to make weekly visits.

Health Laboratory

Canberra is one of the 14 centres throughout Australia where a Commonwealth health laboratory has been established to supply a general pathological service not otherwise available to the local community. During 1955-56 there were 63,901 tests made in the Canberra laboratory and 18,495 patients attended for examination.

Tuberculosis control

Hospital treatment was given in the 16 bed chalet at the Canberra Community Hospital and a chest X-ray service there catered for anyone wishing to attend. Persons X-rayed as a routine measure included all patients and staff at the Hospital, members of the Defence Forces and applicants for appointment to the Commonwealth Public Service. A full laboratory service was provided to the Hospital and to private medical practitioners by the Health Laboratory. A free consultative service was also provided by the Department of Health to medical practitioners.

District Nursing Service

Established in 1950 to provide a home nursing service for the sick and aged, this Service continues to meet an increasing need as the following figures show:

	<u>Patients</u>	<u>Visits</u>
1951-52	1186	5001
1952-53	1732	8139
1953-54	2464	9342
1954-55	2507	9816
1955-56	3412	13,354

Health inspection

A staff of four inspectors, under the Medical Officer of Health, closely supervised matters affecting the health of Territory residents. Thirty-two chemical and 104 bacteriological tests of the water supply were made, and 193 samples of milk for chemical examination and 280 samples for bacteriological examination were taken.

The following infectious diseases were notified:

Acute rheumatism 1; infantile diarrhoea 23; infective hepatitis 40; meningococcal infection 1; poliomyelitis 13; rubella 2; scarlet fever 10; pulmonary tuberculosis 4.

The following establishments were regularly inspected:

Boarding houses 30; prepared meat goods 65; ice cream vendors 5; hairdressers 26; milk vendors 57; eating houses 26; meat vendors 17.

Veterinary services

Many of the field problems which required veterinary assistance from the Department of Health during the year were related to the high rainfall and the very cold weather (experienced both in August 1955 and in June 1956). Lamb losses were heavy in August whilst those which lambed early in 1956 suffered a high mortality rate due to exposure and pneumonia caused by the very cold weather in June.

Foot ailments were bad during the year. Contagious foot rot was introduced into several properties and it proved impossible to control by the usual methods because of the very wet conditions. The seasonal conditions also gave rise to other causes of lameness (such as foot abscess, shelly hoof and scald) and favoured the development of wool rot, mycotic dermatitis and internal parasites, with serious losses from haemonchosis continuing well into May.

Veterinary extension services

Veterinary advice was given to stock owners on established methods and recent developments in prophylactic stock and herd treatments for sheep, cattle and poultry diseases occurring endemically in the Territory, and on remedial measures for affected herds and flocks. Many visits were made to properties to find out the nature of disease or the cause of death; much advice was given on a personal basis - sometimes by telephone - to enquirers wanting to learn of recent developments in medicaments used to remove internal or external parasites, when to inoculate for protection against such complaints as black disease, enterotoxaemia, black-leg, etc. Field days held on hydatids, liver fluke and footrot were well attended and several radio broadcasts were made during the year.

Diseases recorded

Notifiable diseases which received attention were actinomycosis, blackleg, contagious footrot, contagious mastitis, enterotoxaemia, mycotic dermatitis, tuberculosis and infestations with sheep ked, sheep lice and psorergates ovis.

Survey of hydatid incidence

Results of a survey on the incidence of hydatid disease in sheep slaughtered at the Canberra Abattoir were published.

In association with the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney, a survey was carried out on the incidence of hydatid tape worms in rural dogs in the Territory; foxes viscerae were also collected for examination as opportunity offered. This work confirmed a suspicion that, despite educational propaganda disseminated during the past 30 years, there has been no decline in the incidence of hydatids in sheep and that rural dogs are as great a danger to humans as ever.

Stock movements

Stock movements into and out of the Territory were watched by officers of the Division of Veterinary Hygiene as a safeguard against the introduction of disease.

Stock at the Canberra, Hall and Naas sales were inspected and stock on the travelling routes were examined. Cattle brought into the Territory from overseas were regularly examined and given routine precautionary treatment; after inspection and testing, stock leaving the Territory were issued with such health certificates as were necessary.

Dairy farms and Canberra milk supply

Registered dairy farms were regularly inspected to ensure that the buildings and equipment were maintained in a satisfactory condition and that the dairymen paid proper attention to dairy hygiene. Stock were examined periodically

and diseased animals were isolated from the herds. All bovines on the dairies, totalling 2,750, were tuberculin tested; the only two which reacted positively, were destroyed and the owners compensated.

All female calves on dairies, totalling 374, were inoculated with Strain 19 Brucella abortus vaccine as a measure of protection against subsequent infertility.

Trichomoniasis has not been present in A.C.T. herds since its eradication in 1954. As a protection against its reintroduction, dairy farmers are limiting their introductions to animals in advanced pregnancy and liaison is maintained with the N.S.W. Department of Agriculture about sources of origin.

During the year 317 samples of milk, collected during inspection of dairies or from dairy cans, milk depot vats and cans, railway tankers and vendor's containers, were examined for bacterial content and keeping quality in the Veterinary Laboratory.

Piggeries

Periodical inspections were made of piggeries to ensure that the buildings were maintained in a satisfactory condition, the stock free from disease and that proper standards of sanitation were being observed.

Canberra Abattoir

Growth of business at the Canberra Abattoir has been so rapid during recent years that it became necessary to make provision for an increase in the size of the works. During 1955-56 by-products extensions and new machines were taken over and tenders were let for the erection of chillers which will more than double the storage space for chilled meat.

Stock slaughtered during the year were:

Oxen	6754
Cows	478
Calves	1476
Pigs	4799
Sheep and lambs	67,787

All animals were slaughtered under inspection and in accordance with standards identical with those prescribed for meat exported from Australia. Total condemnations remained low but liver condemnations, as usual, were high because of the prevalence of liver fluke and hydatid cysts in the areas from which most of the slaughtered sheep and cattle come.

Abattoir by-products were osatein stock meal, blood and bone fertiliser, sterilised bone meal, tallow, horns, hooves, hair, sinews, sausage runners and glue pieces.

CHILD WELFARE AND EDUCATIONInfants and pre-school children

The Canberra Mothercraft Society, with a staff of six triple-certificated sisters, conducted seven child welfare centres and nine subsidiary centres. During the year, 197 expectant mothers came for advice, 2,105 children under two years of age attended the centres and 3,497 home visits were made by the sisters.

There were 227 interviews conducted by the medical officer attached to the centres. Most of these concerned infants and toddlers referred by the sisters, but some related to school and pre-school children under supervision as a result of school inspections.

In the 3 - 4 years age group 505 children were examined. These children were accompanied by parents or guardians and verbal advice was given on the supervision of defects.

Three hundred and ninety-five infants and young children were given Triple Antigen at child welfare centres.

Children of school age

During routine checks at Territory schools 2193 children were examined, of whom 267 required treatment for defects.

Sixty-seven non-immunised children were given diphtheria immunisation and 348 children, initially immunised in infancy, were given booster injections.

School and pre-school dental service

More than 4,700 children were examined and treated during 1955-56. In May 1956 a new clinic began at Yarralumla.

Free milk

At 30th June 1956 some 5,600 children attending 19 schools in the Territory were each receiving one third of a pint of milk each school day. The milk is provided under the States Grants (Milk for School Children) Act of 1950.

Education

Children attending Territory schools increased by 1011 during the year. Additional accommodation included an infants school at Yarralumla, four classrooms at Ainslie School (primary) and two Roman Catholic schools (St. Joseph's at O'Connor and St. Peter Chanel at Yarralumla).

Maintained or Public Schools

The following schools in the Territory were maintained by the Department of the Interior and staffed by the N.S.W. Department of Education:

<u>School</u>	<u>Enrolment</u>			<u>Staff</u>	
	I.	P.	S.	Total	
Ainslie	469	972	-	1441	42
Canberra High			568	568	34
Duntroon	71	51	-	122	3
Griffith	365	678	-	1043	31
Hall	17	17	-	34	1
Jervis Bay	46	33	-	79	2
Koomarri		11	-	11	1
Narrabundah	268	-	-	268	7
Telopea Park High		-	558	558	39
Tharwa	13	13	-	26	1
Turner	417	-	-	417	10
Uriarra	7	6	-	13	1
Wreck Bay	28	19	-	47	2
Yarralumla	165	149	-	314	8
Total :	1866	1949	1126	4941	182

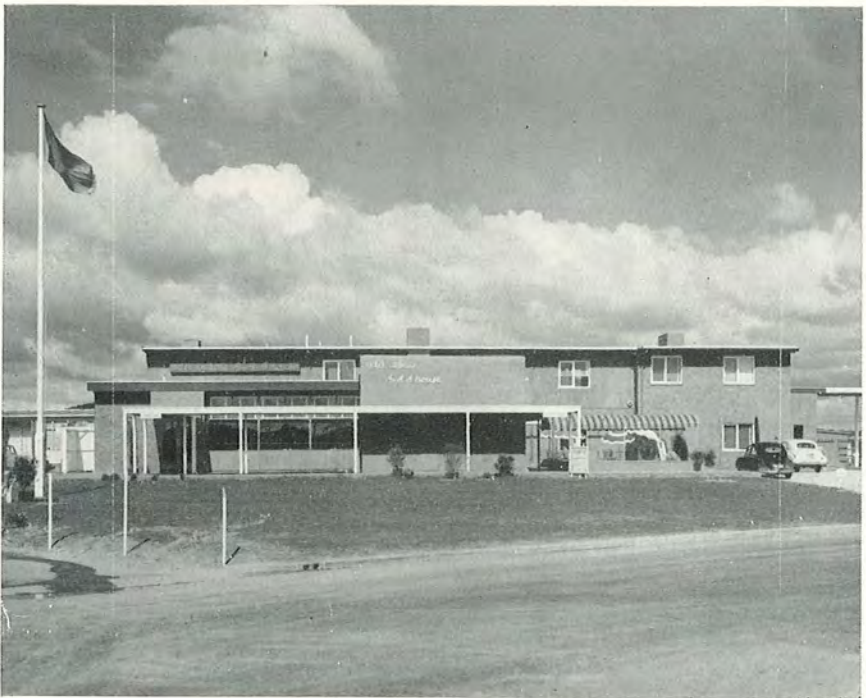
Certified or Private Schools

The Education Ordinance provides that any school, other than those maintained by the Department of the Interior, shall be registered. Certificates of registration are issued biennially on the report of the District Inspector of Schools. The registered schools at 30th June 1956 were:

<u>School</u>	<u>Enrolment</u>				<u>Staff</u>
	I.	P.	S.	Total	
Canberra Grammar (Boys)	29	103	159	291	19
Church of England Girls' Grammar	69	102	115	286	21
St. Benedict's	143	69	-	212	4
St. Christopher's	165	186	188	539	16
St. Edmund's College		228	233	461	12
St. Joseph's	135	41	-	176	4
St. Patrick's	229	226	-	455	12
St. Peter Chanel	100	41	-	141	4
Total :	870	996	695	2561	92



Olympic Swimming Pool.



Motel Canberra.



New Nurses' Wing, Canberra Community Hospital.



New Shops at Civic Centre.

The following table compares enrolments of schools as at May 1956 with the enrolments at the same time for each year since 1952:

<u>Enrolments</u>				
<u>Maintained Schools</u>				
Year	I.	P.	S.	Total
1952	1002	1188	785	2975
1953	1239	1301	899	3439
1954	1532	1413	964	3909
1955	1651	1621	1012	4284
1956	1866	1949	1126	4941
Percentage increase 1955/56	13%	20.0%	11.2%	15.3%
<u>Registered Schools</u>				
1952	454	594	375	1423
1953	528	700	369	1597
1954	657	745	545	1947
1955	753	842	611	2206
1956	870	996	695	2561
Percentage increase 1955/56	15.5%	18.3%	13.7%	16%
<u>All Schools</u>				
1952	1456	1782	1160	4398
1953	1767	2001	1268	5036
1954	2189	2158	1509	5856
1955	2400	2463	1623	6490
1956	2736	2945	1821	7502
Percentage increase 1955/56	14%	19.5%	12.2%	15.6%

Secondary schools

A five year secondary course is provided at Canberra High School, Telopea Park High School, St. Christopher's Convent School, St. Edmunds Christian Brothers College, Canberra Grammar School and Canberra Church of England Girl's Grammar School.

Evening classes

Enrolments in courses in evening classes at the Canberra High School totalled about 290. The courses covered the Intermediate and Leaving Certificate Examinations, Public Service Clerical Examinations, and hobby and cultural activities.

Bursaries

The Education Regulations provide for the annual award of bursaries, as approved by the Minister, on the results of a special examination conducted by the Bursary Examination Board of the N.S.W. Department of Education and on the results of the Intermediate Certificate Examination. In 1955 two bursaries were awarded on the special examination and four on the Intermediate Certificate Examination.

Public Examinations

At the 1955 Intermediate Certificate Examination 168 candidates from public schools, 87 from private schools and 5 students attending the Evening Continuation Classes were successful. At the Leaving Certificate Examination 64 students from public schools, 33 students from private schools, 11 students attending Evening Continuation Classes and two students doing private study were successful.

Pre-school centres

Fifteen centres operated during 1955/56, including the Occasional Care Centre at City and a sub-centre which began to function during the year at the Yarralumla Mothercraft Centre. In addition a mobile unit continued to provide pre-school facilities to certain suburbs that are without permanent centres and to visit Westlake, the Children's Ward at the Hospital, Tharwa, Oaks Estate, Mt. Stromlo and R.M.A.S. Harman.

Enrolments at the Centres totalled 1012, with 122 for the mobile unit.

Several of the teachers employed at the centres were trained at an approved kindergarten training college on scholarships awarded by the Minister for the Interior or the Canberra Pre-School Society. In 1955 one scholarship holder completed her training and began teaching in Canberra, and two new scholarships were awarded to successful Leaving Certificate students who commenced their training in 1956. The value of each scholarship is \$280 per annum.

Technical College

During 1955/56 the Canberra Technical College provided:

Trade Courses for apprentices and post trade courses for builders foreman and clerks of works.

Certificate courses: Matriculation, personnel management, chemistry, sheep and wool, show case and ticket-writing, supervision, horticulture and surveying.

Commercial: Accountancy certificate and diploma secretarial, shorthand theory and typewriting.

Trade testing.

Hobby courses, including dressmaking, woodwork, motor maintenance, ceramics, art and home gardening.

The College also continued its courses for Commonwealth authorities, including shorthand and typing for the Public Service Board and workshop practice for the Royal Military College.

Enrolments at the College as at May 1956 were:

SUBJECT	ENROLLED
<u>Building</u>	
Bricklaying	11
Building Construction	3
Carpentry & Joinery & Post Trades	89
Painting & Decorating & Post Trades	32
Plastering	12
Plumbing	17
Plumbing License	12
Signwriting	14
<u>Engineering</u>	
Automotive Mechanics	37
Fitting & Machining	21
Welding Oxy	25
Welding Electric	9
<u>Electrical</u>	
Fitters & Mechanics	39
Licensee	8
<u>Printing</u>	
Composing	15
Letterpress	3
Bookbinding	5
<u>Commercial</u>	
Accountancy	62
Day Secretarial	51
Shorthand Theory	22
Typewriting	45
<u>Certificate</u>	
Clerk of Works	7
Horticulture	8
Management	40
Matriculation	12
Mechanical Engineering	36
Sheep & Wool	33
Showcard & Ticketwriting	14
Supervision	32
Surveying	10
<u>Women's Handicrafts</u>	
Dressmaking Certificate	39
Millinery Certificate	3
Tailoring	7
Home Dressmaking	85
Home Millinery	13
Flowermaking	13
Soft Furnishing	30

SUBJECT	ENROLLED
<u>Hobbies</u>	
Art - Adult	36
Art - Child	86
Home Gardening	21
Motor Maintenance	81
Pottery	151
Woodwork	64
<hr/>	
Total :	1353
=====	

Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship is regulated by the A.C.T. Apprenticeship Board. (See Appendix "B").

Canberra University College

The activities of the Canberra University College during the twelve months ended 31st December 1955 are described in the report of the College for that year. (See Appendix "B").

GENERAL SERVICESHousing services

Sales of Government-owned houses to tenants numbered 361 for a total of £942,934 (the previous year's figures being 247 houses for £674,092).

The Commissioner for Housing may grant loans at interest of 5% per annum to residents who wish to purchase, erect or enlarge houses in the Territory. During the year 98 loans were granted and 25 mortgages were discharged; there were 312 houses subject to building loans at 30th June 1956.

At this date Government-owned housing units administered by the Department of the Interior totalled 4786, of which 224 were flats. Government employees occupied 3314 and other persons 1472.

Rental rebates granted during the year numbered 196.

Guest houses and hostels

Guest houses controlled by the Department of the Interior at 30th June 1956 were:

	<u>Capacity</u>
Hotel Kurrajong	196
Hotel Acton	190
Lewley House	168
Gorman House	130

	<u>Capacity</u>
Mulwala House	221
Narellan House	50
Reid House	298
Acton Guest House	140
Havelock House	172
Brassey House	58
	<u>1623</u>

The Department of Works operated two hostels for construction workers. Total capacity was 974, with staff numbering 66.

Transport and communications

The City Omnibus Service carried about 3,925,000 passengers and its vehicles travelled 922,700 miles. Revenue totalled £129,294 (previous year £126,920) and loss on operations was £69,123.

A new time table was introduced with the object of giving residents of all suburbs the maximum possible service at times when demand is greatest.

Six new A.E.C. Reliance 43 seater buses added to the fleet during the year were successfully operated as one-man buses on night shifts and at week-ends. Additional bus transport was provided for school children in the city area and rural school services were extended to take in the Kowen district.

New motor vehicles (cars, lorries, cycles, trailers, tractors and buses) registered during 1955/56 totalled 3601. Registration of all vehicles came to 11,373 of which 7772 were renewals.

Vehicles presented for registration were tested for roadworthiness and found to have defects as follows:-

Faulty brakes	359
Faulty steering	37
Faulty headlights	607
Other faults	837
	<u>1840</u>

On 21st May 1956 the 26 public hire cars in Canberra were converted to taxis and the public hire car at Jervis Bay became a private hire car.

Drivers' licences in force at 30th June 1956 were: car and lorry 12796; cycle riders 852; taxi or private hire car 90; motor omnibuses 233; licensed goods vehicles 39; conductors 161.

Commercial air traffic into and out of Canberra continued to increase during the year, as the following figures show:

	Passenger Arrivals	Departures	Aircraft movements
1954/55	51,917	56,258	8531
1955/56	53,479	57,732	8904

Movements of non-commercial aircraft were: R.A.A.F. 17,251 and private 6,152.

The Postmaster-General's Department continued to expand the telephone cable network in Canberra, particularly for the new shopping area at City and for the suburbs of Acton and Barton. Telephone installations for new subscribers amounted to 1216 for the year, bringing the total number of subscribers to 5726, with 10,021 points (including 68 public telephones). Wherever possible steps were taken to convert duplex services to exclusive connections, with the result that dual services decreased from 133 to 64.

The cutover of the Barton exchange took place in April 1956, with capacity for 1500 subscribers. Preliminary work on cable laying between Canberra and Queanbeyan was completed and three additional trunk channels between Cooma and Canberra were provided. Subscribers in the Ginninderra area were connected to the rural automatic exchange at Hall, thereby gaining the advantages of continuous service.

Customs parcels for Territory residents, which were formerly examined for duty in Sydney, are now sent direct to the Canberra Post Office for examination. This new arrangement, instituted during the year, has resulted in the quicker delivery of overseas parcels.

A letter receiver was installed at the intersection of Boronia Drive and Belah Street, O'Connor. Additional mail clearances were provided at Ainslie, O'Connor and Yarralumla post offices to connect with outgoing air services and the afternoon diesel train. Arrangements were made to provide non-official post offices at Throsby Crescent and Uriarra Forest, and to institute mail deliveries for householders living along Kambah Lane.

Milk supplies

In April 1955 the Minister for the Interior appointed Mr. L.C. Webb a commissioner under the Enquiry Ordinances to enquire into various matters relating to the supply and distribution of whole milk for human consumption in the Territory.

Mr. Webb submitted his report on 11th January 1956 to the Minister who then appointed an interdepartmental committee to advise him on the steps necessary to effect such changes in arrangements for the supply of milk as might be considered desirable in the light of the report.

Social Welfare

The Social Worker at the Department of the Interior dealt with 300 cases during the year. The majority were long-term cases requiring continuous visiting over a period of months but the rest were settled after one or two contacts. There was an average of 20 new cases referred each month out of a total monthly case load averaging 61.

School principals sought assistance from the Social Worker with 80 children whose attendance was unsatisfactory or whose behaviour was causing concern to parents or teachers. Doctors, ministers, charitable organisations, the Police and the Court all referred persons for assistance, whilst many came of their own accord.

Financial assistance was arranged for many persons in the form of food and clothing orders, and application for statutory benefits was made on their behalf. The Social Worker was actively concerned with the Emergency Housekeeper Service which, with an increased Government subsidy, was able to supply housekeepers to 138 families; full fees were paid in 33 cases and a reduced charge in the remaining cases.

Protection of life and property

The Canberra Fire Brigade attended 214 fire calls, of which 38 were to fires in buildings, 43 were to chimney fires, 11 to motor vehicles, 12 to electrical fires and 38 to grass, tree and bush fires. Sixty-eight calls were false alarms, of which 14 were considered to be malicious.

Members of the Brigade continued to act as ambulance officers up to the 12th October 1955, when the two services were separated; during the period 1st July - 12 October 1955, Brigade officers answered 564 ambulance calls. From the date of separation until 30th June 1956, the Ambulance Service attended 1418 cases and its vehicles travelled 16,523 miles.

The Canberra Life Saving Patrol carried out patrols at the Cotter Pool and at Kambah during the 1955/56 swimming season. Forty-eight rescues were made and there were no drowning fatalities. Some 300 persons were given attention for minor injuries.

The A.C.T. Police Force, with an effective strength of 58 (including two policewomen) dealt with the following crimes and offences during 1955/56:

	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Convictions</u>
Offences against the person	73	46
Offences against property	110	88
Offences against good order	335	329
Miscellaneous other breaches	923	781

Police attended 586 road accidents during the year; other accidents numbering 771 were not attended as only minor damage was reported. Lectures on road safety were given to a total of 260 classes in schools.

Fifty-five persons were arrested for driving or being in charge of a motor vehicle whilst under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

As already mentioned, late closing for licensed premises was introduced on 1st October 1955. According to Police reports there was no consequent increase in drunkenness and the new licensing hours worked well.

Licensed premises, particularly hotels, were well conducted. Systematic inspection resulted in continued improvement of standards during the year and every endeavour was made to see that hotels provided the best possible service by way of meals and accommodation. At 30th June 1956 the following licences were in force under the Liquor Ordinance:

Hotels	7
Motel	1
Clubs	15
Grocers	24
Restaurants	3

At Jervis Bay the Police used boats on 12 occasions to rescue persons in distress. In addition, a seriously injured man was removed from a passing cargo vessel.

Tests for driver's licences were given to 2107 persons of whom 825 failed.

Crime on the part of juveniles continued to decrease during the year, as the following figures show:

	<u>1953/54</u>	<u>1954/55</u>	<u>1955/56</u>
Offenders	46	29	31
Offences	86	89	46

The most common offence was stealing.

Miscellaneous licensing

The following licences were issued during 1955/56:

Hawkers	66
Dogs	1155
Auctioneers	14
Guns	1669
Anglers	1415
Tobacco	120
	<u>4439</u>
	=====

Amenities

The Canberra City Band gave 38 public performances in Canberra and made appearances at Crookwell, Bathurst, Boorowa and Bungendore. Official functions attended in Canberra included a reception at Government House, opening of the Australian Citizenship Convention, Anzac Day at the Australian War Memorial, India's national day and a reception at the Indian High Commissioner's residence. The Band also provided music for a number of voluntary organisations in Canberra.

The Band sponsored the formation during the year of the Canberra Girls Marching Association. In April a festival of music and marching was held, with teams participating from Melbourne, Nowra, Bathurst, Goulburn and Canberra; public attendance at the festival at Manuka Oval exceeded 5,000 persons.

The National Library continued its local lending service to residents of the Territory. A total of 101,809 books were lent to some 11,300 enrolled borrowers.

Two children's libraries, conducted in premises at the Canberra Technical College and at the Corroboree Park Youth Centre, Ainslie, proved to be increasingly popular, with total borrowings reaching nearly 30,000 books. In addition the Library provided a bulk supply of books for use at vacation play centres conducted by the Department of the Interior during January 1956.

On the recommendation of the Committee on Cultural Development, grants were made as follows for the purpose of assisting the organisations named to develop their cultural activities: Canberra Repertory Society £900, Australian National Eisteddfod Society £745, Canberra Orchestral Society £150, Canberra Art Club £100, Canberra Artists Society £75, Canberra Recorded Music Society £25, Canberra Choral Group £5.

About 100,000 plants were issued from the Yarralumla Nursery, of which about 70,000 were planted in the city area. Very heavy rainfall during the year caused the death of many trees and shrubs growing in low-lying areas; these will be replaced by species which will resist wet conditions better. Work proceeded on the levelling and planting of street plantations.

On 23rd December 1955 the Canberra Olympic Pool was opened for public use. From then until the end of the season on 3rd April 1956, admissions to the Pool were 49,563 adults and 57,646 children. Admissions to the Manuka Pool during the season were: adults 14,588 and 55,079 children.

The "Learn to Swim" campaign was continued by the Canberra Amateur Swimming Club, by members of the Police Force and by instructors from the N.S.W. Education Department.

The National Fitness Advisory Committee allocated the sum of £907 amongst sixteen youth and sporting organisations. Apart from these grants, the sum of £250 was allocated to the Department of the Interior towards the cost of conducting vacation play centres and amounts of £375 each were granted to the Y.W.C.A. and the Y.M.C.A. to help with their general activities in Canberra.

About 30,000 brown trout ova were liberated during the 1955-56 season. The liberation of fry during September 1955 was:

Cotter River	10,000
Murrumbidgee River	10,000
Molonglo River	8,000
Paddy's River	2,000
	<hr/>
	30,000
	<hr/>

(The total liberation of trout from 1922 until 1955 is about 1,010,000).

Tourist services

Although there were floods in nearby areas during the autumn and early winter of 1956 the flow of tourists to Canberra increased during the year. In spite of the opening of Motel Canberra and additional cabins at Mountain Park Motor Camp, Turner, (which made available about 200 more beds) accommodation was heavily taxed during peak periods.

The gross takings of the Canberra Tourist Bureau were £50,788 during the year and earnings by way of commissions, discounts etc. totalled £3,825. Railway bookings increased slightly (to 6276 tickets and 9909 reserved seats and berths) but road service bookings declined to 8,300 (12,200 in 1954/55). Accommodation bookings totalled 25,700 bed-nights.

Publicity activities

A specially prepared students handbook on Canberra was issued free to all State Education Departments during 1955/56, on the basis of one copy to each school library.

In December 1955 a map outlining the rural attractions of the Territory was put on sale and in June 1956 a Canberra tourist poster was produced for distribution in Australia and overseas.

The N.S.W. Department of Railways continued running its one-day tours to Canberra. There were 15 tours which brought more than 4,000 visitors to Canberra. The Department of the Interior supplied the tourists with publicity material and assisted with local arrangements for transport and sightseeing.

PRIMARY PRODUCTION

Most Crown land outside the city area not required for Commonwealth purposes is leased for primary production for periods of up to 50 years. Most rural leases were granted for grazing or agricultural purposes, the remainder being for dairying, orcharding, vegetable growing etc. At 30th June 1956 there were 515 rural leases occupying a total area of 323,145 acres.

In addition to the leased land there were 107,081 acres of freehold land.

Seasonal conditions

The total rainfall in Canberra for the year was 40.43 inches, or 16.77 inches above average. The rainfall pattern is shown in the following table:

1955

	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Total	1.12	4.18	1.01	5.00	2.85	2.48
Average	1.82	1.76	1.87	2.40	2.00	2.17

1956

	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June
Total	3.13	2.17	7.73	3.14	2.70	4.92
Average	2.06	1.94	2.17	2.28	1.68	1.51

From this it can be seen that an evenly distributed high rainfall was experienced resulting in a very good season for the pastoral industry.

Wool and meat production

The 1955/56 season's wool clip for the Territory was 2,297,369 lbs. from 263,355 sheep.

Meat production was: beef 1614 tons; veal 66 tons; mutton 1009 tons; lamb 403 tons; pigmeat 214 tons.

Pasture improvement

The area under improved grasses and clovers at 30th June 1956 was 52,053 acres, an increase of 6,087 acres for the year.

The pasture improvement competition conducted annually by the A.C.T. Pastoral and Agricultural Association for the shield donated by the Department of the Interior was won by Mr. H.S. Nelthorpe - Quibell.

Crops

The area under crop in 1955/56 was 5,776 acres, of which 739 acres were devoted to wheat and 313 acres to oats for grain. Wheat produced totalled 18,867 bushels giving an average yield of 25.5 bushels per acre. Oats yielded 5,364 bushels, giving an average yield of 17.1 bushels per acre. Total hay production was 7,211 tons from 3,310 acres.

Vegetables

The area under vegetables was 186 acres. The main crop was potatoes of which 413 tons were produced from 70 acres.

Orcharding

An estimated increase of some 2,000 fruit trees planted during the year brought the total number of trees in the Territory to about 62,000. The main commercial crop consisted of 8,740 bushels of apples.

Dairying

Production of milk was 783,032 gallons from 2,872 cows and consumption was 1,590,772 gallons. The shortage was imported from sources outside the Territory.

Extension work

Advice was given to landholders in nearly every sphere of primary production by means of films, radio broadcasts field days, booklets etc.

Soil conservation

The responsibility for soil conservation in the Territory is vested in the A.C.T. Soil Conservation Council. Details of its activities for the year are given in its annual report.

As a result of the Council's efforts the Territory benefited during the year by an increase in water storage of 3,386,235 gallons in earth dams (total capacity raised to 24,722,144 gallons). A continuous effort to control erosion by contour furrows, graded and diversion banks, contour cultivation and deep tillage was maintained.

Forestry

Forest plantations established during the year were:

	<u>Acres</u>
Uriarra	440
Pierce's Creek	63
Stromlo	68
Kowen	262
Soil conservation	119
	<u>952</u>

The total area of plantations at 31st December 1955 was 18,300 acres.

Plantation grown softwood utilised during the year amounted to 12,300,000 super feet. Hardwood cut during the year amounted to 2,000,000 super feet.

The total quantity of timber cut from Territory forests up to 30th June 1956 was 113,800,000 super feet of softwood and 32,900,000 super feet of hardwood.

LIST OF EVENTS

- | | | |
|------------------|----|--|
| <u>July</u> | 16 | Koomarri School officially opened by Mr. R.G. Bailey, Chairman of the A.C.T. Advisory Council. |
| | 30 | The Governor-General, Sir William Slim, inaugurated Canberra Remembrance Driveway. |
| <u>August</u> | 6 | City Plan altered to allow for major housing development. |
| | 11 | His Excellency Mr. T. Suzuki, Japanese Ambassador to Australia, presented his letters of credence to the Governor-General. |
| | 17 | Griffith Infants School opened by Mr. J.R. Fraser M.P. |
| | 22 | Director-General of U.N.E.S.C.O., Dr. Luther Evans, visited Canberra. |
| <u>September</u> | 3 | Lady Slim opened Red Cross headquarters at Riverside. |
| | 28 | Senate Select Committee on Development of Canberra tabled its report. |
| <u>October</u> | 5 | Elizabethan Theatre Trust presented |
| | 6 | "Medea" with Judith Anderson in the leading role. |
| | 6 | His Excellency Dr. Raden H. Tirtawinata, Indonesian Ambassador, presented his credentials to the Governor-General. |
| | 12 | Ambulance service moved to new headquarters in Manuka. |
| | 28 | Pages of a letter written by Florence Nightingale presented to National Library. |
| | | Indonesian Goodwill mission arrived in Canberra. |
| <u>November</u> | 2 | Sir John Kotelawala, Prime Minister of Ceylon, arrived in Canberra. |
| | 3 | The Editor of "Punch", Mr. Malcolm Muggeridge, visited Canberra. |
| | 7 | Commonwealth Press Union Conference held in Canberra. |
| | 9 | The Governor-General opened new 74" telescope at Mt. Stromlo. |
| | | The Attorney-General, Senator J.A. Spicer, opened the Patents Conference. |

- 15 Appeal launched by Y.M.C.A. to raise £30,000 for an indoor recreation centre.
- 19 Opening of Methodist National Memorial Church by Rev. R.B. Lew, President-general of the Methodist Church of Australia.
- 25 Canadian gift flagpole arrived in Canberra.
- 26 Lady Slim opened new nurses's wing at Canberra Community Hospital.
- December
- 1 Mr. A.Z. Baker, international Rotary president, arrived in Canberra.
- 4 Canberra's oldest bakery, Bakers Distributors Pty. Ltd., closed down.
- 23 Olympic Pool opened for use.
- 31 Kon Tiki voyager, Dr. Bengt Danielsson, visited Canberra.
- January
- 11 Mr. Allen Fairhall succeeded Mr. W.S. Kent Hughes as Minister for the Interior.
- 17 S.E.A.T.O. military leaders visited Canberra
- 24 Australian Citizenship Convention opened at the Albert Hall.
- 26 Mr. Takeo Miki, special envoy of the Japanese Prime Minister, visited Canberra on a Goodwill Mission.
- 29 N.S.W. Country Swimming Championships at the Olympic Pool.
- Report by Mr. Leicester C. Webb on Canberra's milk supply.
- February
- 6 First offices in the Administrative Building, Parkes, occupied.
- 14 Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, U.N. Secretary-General, arrived in Canberra.
- 15 Federal headquarters of the R.S.S. & A.I.L.A. opened by the Governor-General.
- Mr. S.G. Holland, Prime Minister of New Zealand, arrived in Canberra.
- March
- 7 The Australian National University received a £39,000 grant for thermo-nuclear processes experiments.
- 9 Thai Buddhist abbots visited Canberra and gave first of a series of lectures.
- 12 R.A.A.C. colours were presented to the Australian War Memorial for perpetual safekeeping.

12 New convent of the Sisters of Mercy and the new presbytery at St. Patrick's blessed.

21 General Kitching, world leader of the Salvation Army, visited Canberra.

24 U.S. Ambassador Designate to Australia, Mr. D. Moffat, arrived in Canberra.

April

9 The Elizabethan Theatre Trust presented "Summer of the Seventeenth Doll" at the Albert Hall.

11 Admiral the Earl Mountbatten and Countess Mountbatten arrived in Canberra.

16 Championships of National Sheep Dog Trails held.

Canberra Historical Society members visited grave site of William Farrar to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of his death.

17 Annual Conference of the Institute of Engineers opened by the Governor-General.

23 The Prime Minister opened the Australian National Eisteddfod.

May

4 Motel Canberra was officially opened by Senator W.H. Spooner.

9 General James Doolittle, Coral sea hero, visited Canberra.

15 The South African Rugby Union team, the Springboks, arrived in Canberra.

21 St. Joseph's Infants School opened.

29 Sydney Opera Group presented three operas at the Albert Hall: "La Serva Padrona," "The Telephone" and "The Medium".

June

3 International women's hockey tournament held in Canberra.

14 Miss Maureen Kistle, Miss Australia 1955, was tendered a Civic Reception by the A.C.T. Advisory Council.

15 The Duntroon district of Canberra renamed "Campbell".

19 Sir Howard Florey, resigned from his position as advisor to the National University.

20 A record number of 124 new citizens were naturalised.

22 Temperature of 18.3 degs. recorded being the coldest temperature for fifteen years.

26 The Molonglo River reached a height of 17 ft. the (highest level since 1948).

27 La Salle String Quartet from America gave a recital at the inaugural concert of the Canberra Chamber Music Society.

APPENDIX "A"ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENTCOURTS AND TITLES OFFICE, CANBERRASUMMARY OF OPERATIONS FOR YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE, 1956SUPREME COURT

- (a) Criminal Jurisdiction: Proceedings in connection with Criminal Matters, either by way of committal for sentence or committal for trial, totalled twenty-two (22).
- (b) Civil Jurisdiction: One hundred and thirty-two (132) civil proceedings were instituted.
- (c) Matrimonial Causes Jurisdiction: Matrimonial cases heard and determined totalled forty (40).
- (d) Probate Jurisdiction: Thirty-four (34) applications for probate or letters of administration were lodged.

COMMONWEALTH COURT OF CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION

Sixty (60) applications for variation of existing determinations were settled or heard.

COURT OF PETTY SESSIONS

The number of charge cases and summonses during the year 1955-1956 totalled two thousand five hundred and seventy-five (2575). The total of Fines and Fees imposed and collected amounted to £5113.9.6 and £2080.2.4. respectively. Eighty-seven matters were dealt with by the Court sitting at Jervis Bay.

TITLES REGISTRY

A total of one thousand eight hundred and nine (1809) dealings were lodged for registration, including six hundred and eighty seven (687) original grants of Crown leases and two hundred and eleven (211) transfers.

The value of property transferred was approximately £967,800.

COMPANIES REGISTRY

One hundred and ninety one (191) local companies, with total nominal capital of £37,133,250 and one hundred and thirty-one (131) foreign companies with a total nominal capital of £103,558,417 were registered. A total of nine hundred and twenty six (926) local companies and four hundred and twenty-two (422) foreign companies, have now been registered in the Territory.

LIQUOR REGISTRY

Two thousand two hundred and forty-one (2241) Special Permits and twenty-three (23) Booth Licences were granted.

Licence fees in respect of eight (8) hotels, sixteen (16) clubs, three (3) restaurants and twenty-six (26) grocers, amounted to £26,213.

FIRMS REGISTRY

One hundred and seventy-six (176) new firms were registered, bring the total number of firms registered to nine hundred and thirty-nine (939).

INSTRUMENTS REGISTRY

Thirty-one (31) Bills of Sale, Four (4) Stock Mortgages and nine (9) Wool Liens were registered.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES REGISTRY

One (1) new registration was effected.

BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES REGISTRY

Nine hundred and ninety-eight (998) Births, One hundred and fifty-three (153) Deaths and two hundred and fifty-six (256) Marriages were registered. Thirty-five (35) Marriages were performed by the District Registrar in the Registry Office.

ASSOCIATIONS REGISTRY

Ten (10) new Associations were registered under the Associations Ordinance, bringing the total number of Associations now registered to 24.

REVENUE

Total revenue collected for the year ended 30th June, 1956, amounted to £66,152, representing an increase of 25% over revenue collected for the preceding year.

GENERAL

The volume of work handled by the Courts and Titles office during the year 1955-1956 showed an increase of more than 20% over the volume of work handled in 1954-1955. It has more than doubled in the last five years.

APPENDIX "B"

There are a number of public bodies in the Australian Capital Territory set up to administer (or to advise on the administration of) matters coming within a specified field of activity. A full list of such bodies operating during the year ended 30th June, 1956 is set out below.

Part I - Annual reports furnished (copies lodged with National Library, Canberra):

A.C.T. Advisory Council
 Apprenticeship Board
 Bush Fire Council
 Canberra Public Cemetery Trust
 Canberra Mothercraft Society
 Canberra Emergency Housekeeper Service
 Canberra Relief Society
 Canberra Community Hospital Board
 A.C.T. Soil Conservation Council
 Canberra University College Council
 Canberra Tourist Bureau Advisory Board

Part II - Annual reports not furnished:

Committee on Cultural Development (A.C.T.)
 Corroboree Park Youth Centre Council
 Dental Board
 Insurance (Third Party) Claims Committee
 Premiums Advisory Committee (Motor Vehicle
 Third Party Insurance)
 National Capital Planning and Development
 Committee
 Road Safety Council of the A.C.T.
 Canberra National Fitness Advisory Committee
 Nurses Registration Board
 Pharmacy Board
 Canberra Pre-School Advisory Committee
 Medical Board