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A Study of Desperate Hopes

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Contents

List of Illustrations		vii
List	t of Tables	viii
Acknowledgements		ix
Abbreviations and Usages		x
Inti	roduction	1
1	The Great War's Impact	9
2	The Whirl of Hughes: 1920–1923	30
3	S. M. Bruce and Empire: 1923–1925	48
4	The Modest Zenith of Hope: 1925–1926	64
5	Ambiguities: 1926–1927	84
6	Through Confusion to Doom: 1928–1929	107
7	Nadir: 1929–1935	139
8	Toward the Wheel's Return: 1932-1940	166
9	Emigration	180
10	Immigration	219
Afterword		256
Notes		258
Bibliography		296
Index		304



For Justin Roe



Illustrations

Bruce's Army: Labor electoral propaganda, 1928	121
Publicity or propaganda?	124
Australian publicity	196–9
An image of hope	201
Migration as salvation?	206
Industrial nominees	210
Faces in the crowd	226–7
Farmboy as fool	251
Farmboy as fellow	253
A family snap	255



Tables

1	Gross, net and assisted immigration to Australia, 1919-40	3
2	Assisted immigration to Australia, by category, 1920-39	4
3	Requisitions by Australian States for 'selected' immigrants from Britain, by category, 1928	5
4	'Undertakings' and spending under the £34 Million Agreement	164-5



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Abbreviations and Usages

CSIR Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

CSIRO Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisa-

tion, the successor to CSIR

DMC Development and Migration Commission HMG His Majesty's Government of the UK

ITB Industrial Transference Board

NRF National Relief Fund

OSC Oversea Settlement Committee
OSD Oversea Settlement Department

SOSBW Society for the Oversea Settlement of British Women

YM(W)CA Young Men's (Women's) Christian Association

'Australia House' refers to the offices of the Commonwealth in London, wherein was housed the bureaucracy dealing with migration.

'The Commonwealth' refers to the federal government of Australia, established in 1901 with the federation of the six then-existing colonies. The colonies then became known as States and retained extensive powers.

References to money and area remain in contemporary terms. For money these include occasional references to shillings (s.) and pence (d.), as well as pounds (£). There were 12 pennies in one shilling, and 20 shillings in one pound. Appropriate conversions for distance are 1 mile = 1.61 kilometre, and for area, 1 acre = 0.405 hectare.

Various usages define particular categories of assisted migrants. Nominees were those proposed by Australian residents (nominators). 'Selectees' were those recruited in Britain after State governments had specified (technically, requisitioned) desired numbers in particular categories of employment. Quotation marks are used throughout as to 'selectees' and their 'selection'.

The Agreement (capitalised) is the so-called 'Thirty-four Million Pounds Agreement' under which HMG subsidised particular schemes in Australia, more specifically described as 'undertakings'.

'Normal flow' migrants are those who presumably would have gone to Australia by whatever means, independent of the putative impact of the Agreement.

'Labor' is spelled thus only when referring to the pertinent Australian political force.