SOCIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL INNOVATIONS

- 1839 Adelaide Chamber of Commerce formed first in Australia
- 1856 South Australia was the first Australian colony to introduce male adult suffrage for parliamentary elections
- 1858 The Real Property Act introduced a new method of registering the ownership, or title to land, the Torrens Title, which has subsequently been copied and adopted widely overseas
- 1869 S Chamber of Manufactures formed first in Australia
- 1876 South Australia first territory in British Empire to legalise trade unions
- 1879 The Advanced School for Girls, the first state secondary school for girls in Australia, was opened in Adelaide
- 1881 The University of Adelaide was the first in Australia to admit women to degrees
- 1885 Roseworthy Agricultural College, the first agricultural college in Australia, opened in Gawler
- 1895 South Australia became the first Australian colony to grant women the vote.
- 1895 South Australia's Parliament was the first anywhere in the world to allow women to stand for election
- 1897 Uni of Adelaide first in Australia to establish a Conservatorium of Music
- 1936 The South Australian Housing Trust, the first public housing authority in Australia
- 1938 The first talking fire alarm in the world was installed at Woodville
- 1966 The Prohibition of Discrimination Act 1966 prohibiting racial discrimination was assented. The first such Act in Australia
- 1975 The legal consequences of illegitimacy were abolished by the Family Relationships Act 1975. An Australian first
- 1976 Rape in marriage was made a criminal offence, the first such measure in the English speaking world
- 1976 The Sex Discrimination Act 1975 was proclaimed, the first such Act in Australia
- Don and Edward Both Inventor of world's first instant-diagnosis electrocardiograph (1934) and world's first transportable iron lung (1937)
- Lord Florey of Adelaide shared 1945 Nobel Prize for medicine with Ernest Chain and Alexander Fleming for isolation of Penicillin
- Bragg, Sir William Henry and Sir William Lawrence father and son team were Nobel prize winners in 192? for their work in Physics and X-ray Crystallography