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SECTION XXIV.

PUBLIC BENEVOLENCE.

§ 1. Introductory.

1. **General.**—Charity and charitable effort in Australia may be classified under three headings, viz. :—(a) State; (b) public; (c) private. To the first belong all institutions wholly provided for by the State, such as the principal lunatic asylums in the various States, the Government hospitals in Western Australia, and the Government asylums for the infirm in New South Wales. The second class comprises public institutions of two kinds, viz. :—(i) those partially subsidised by the State or State endowed, but receiving also private aid, and (ii) those wholly dependent upon private aid. To the former division belong such institutions as the principal metropolitan hospitals. In the latter are included institutions established and endowed by individuals for the benefit of the needy generally. All charitable movements of a private character are included in the third group. A more or less accurate statistical account is possible in classes (a) and (b), but in regard to (c) complete tabulation is, for obvious reasons, impossible.

No poor-rate is levied in Australia, and Government aid without return is required only for the aged and disabled. Moreover, although Old-age Pensions, Invalid Pensions, and Maternity Allowances are paid by the Commonwealth, the payments are looked upon rather in the light of a citizen's right than as a charity. Reference to these matters will be found in Section xxxiv., *Miscellaneous*, § 4 and 5.

From time to time relief funds have been organised for famine-stricken territories (e.g., China, India, etc.), or for places where plague, flood, fire, or earthquake has shewn the need of urgent relief. Special funds are also raised for persons disabled or bereaved through war. Complete statistical information in regard to these forms of charity is not, however, available. It may be mentioned that the daily Press frequently accepts the duty of collectorship in charity appeals. In regard to subscriptions to the various patriotic funds which have been instituted in consequence of the war, the total for Australia, up to 31st December, 1919, has been estimated to exceed £12,500,000 sterling.

§ 2. The Larger Charities of Australia.

1. **Hospitals.**—All of the State capitals have several large and well-equipped hospitals, and there is at least one in every important town. In large centres there are hospitals for consumptives, women, children, infectious diseases, incurables, etc. The number of hospitals in Australia, with the admissions, patients treated, deaths, and expenditure, is shewn in the following table. Only general hospitals are tabulated, since the working of "special" institutions is not properly comparable with those which treat every class of case.

HOSPITALS IN THE COMMONWEALTH, 1915 TO 1919.

Particulars.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Number of institutions ..	398	391	399	393	393
Number of beds ..	16,374	15,811	16,763	17,000	17,390
Admissions during year ..	169,892	166,588	164,889	174,379	193,920
Indoor patients treated ..	179,829	176,279	174,387	184,176	202,929
Deaths ..	12,809	13,128	11,885	12,494	15,758
Expenditure ..	£ 1,280,461	1,351,160	1,396,361	1,543,162	1,798,297

In addition to those admitted to the institutions there are large numbers of out-patients. The exact number of these cannot be given, but a rough estimate of distinct cases for 1919 places the total at about 300,000.

Fuller details of hospital statistics are given for 1919 in the tables below, the States and Northern Territory of the Commonwealth being shown separately :—

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—NUMBER, STAFFS, AND ACCOMMODATION OF HOSPITALS IN THE COMMONWEALTH, 1919.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter.	C'wealth.
Number of Hospitals—								
Government	4	52	3	10	22	2	5	46
Other	153	85	19	28	10	..	..	347
Total	157	52	88	29	50	12	5	393
Medical Staff—								
Males	863	91	185	112	49	21	1	1,334
Females .. ..	..	..	9	2	1	..	..	..
Total	863	91	194	114	50	21	1	1,334
Nursing Staff and Attendants—								
Males	76	12	234	58	97	2	3	532
Females	2,244	876	1,178	564	564	172	7	5,605
Total	2,320	888	1,462	622	661	174	10	6,137
Accommodation—								
Number of dormitories, etc.	1,047	429	555	221	213	123	11	2,599
Capacity in cubic feet	7,909,652	4,824,585	3,959,281	1,681,821	2,394,195	879,439	60,912	21,709,885
Number of beds, etc.	6,785	3,565	3,555	1,222	1,651	590	22	17,390
Cubic feet to each bed	1,166	1,353	1,128	1,376	1,450	1,491	3,000	1,248

In addition to the accommodation provided in the ordinary wards, a considerable amount of accommodation for certain classes of cases is furnished in out-door or verandah sleeping places. Full particulars are not available.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—PATIENTS TREATED IN HOSPITALS IN THE COMMONWEALTH, 1919.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter.	C'wealth.
Indoor Relief: Distinct								
Persons Treated—								
Males	46,233	18,866	27,559	6,948	8,897	4,164	258	112,925
Females	40,651	16,291	16,959	5,743	6,100	4,122	138	90,004
Total	86,884	35,157	44,518	12,691	14,997	8,286	396	202,929
Inmates at beginning of Year—								
Males	2,394	1,194	1,254	411	620	197	19	6,089
Females	1,935	999	761	324	355	212	5	4,591
Total	4,329	2,193	2,015	735	975	409	24	10,680
Admissions and Re-admissions during Year—								
Males	43,899	17,672	26,305	7,701	8,277	3,967	229	107,990
Females	38,716	15,292	16,198	5,936	5,745	3,910	138	85,930
Total	82,555	32,964	42,503	13,637	14,022	7,877	362	193,920

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—PATIENTS TREATED IN HOSPITALS IN THE COMMONWEALTH, 1919—*continued.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter.	C'wealth.
Discharges—Recovered :								
Males	31,276	14,780	23,542	4,611	3,660	3,569	203	81,641
Females	30,766	13,398	14,578	4,340	3,388	3,614	125	70,209
Total	62,042	28,178	38,120	8,951	7,048	7,183	328	151,850
Relieved :								
Males	7,085	..	..	1,549	3,458	..	..	c
Females	4,283	..	..	939	1,801	..	..	c
Total	11,368	b	b	2,488	5,259	b	..	c
Unrelieved :								
Males	1,241	110	255	729	384	111	..	2,830
Females	952	115	205	289	181	86	..	1,828
Total	2,193	225	460	1,018	565	197	..	4,658
Not stated :								
Males .. ..	..	665	407	39	..	6	..	1,117
Females .. ..	..	453	326	16	..	18	..	813
Total .. ..	..	1,118	733	55	..	24	..	1,930
Deaths—								
Males	4,087	2,117	1,965	696	813	246	16	9,940
Females	2,537	1,282	1,052	388	375	181	3	5,818
Total	6,624	3,399	3,017	1,084	1,188	427	19	15,758
Inmates at end of Year—								
Males	2,544	1,194	1,390	488	582	232	24	6,454
Females	2,113	1,043	798	288	355	223	17	4,837
Total	4,657	2,237	2,188	776	937	455	41	11,291
Average Daily Number Resident—								
Males	2,647	2,275	2,347	491 370	637 367	199 193	20 7	11,865
Females	2,312							
Total	4,959	2,275	2,347	861	1,004	392	27	11,865

(a) Including relieved. (b) Included in recovered. (c) Not available.

The revenue and expenditure of the institutions were as follows :—

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1919.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria. <i>a</i>	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	N. Ter.	C'wealth.					
Revenue—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£					
Fees of patients, etc. ..	95,681	42,530	40,001	22,933	30,339	14,518	652	246,654					
Government grants ..	386,316	62,860	195,536	86,467	96,309	36,957	6,178	870,623					
Other ..	294,108	156,654	113,257	16,447	25,841	7,829	..	614,136					
Total ..	776,105	262,044	348,794	125,847	152,489	50,304	6,830	1,731,413					
Expenditure—													
Buildings ..	132,589	26,341	31,548	8,375	1,635	2,128	177	1,798,297					
Salaries ..	288,879	239,020	{ 129,830 <i>b</i>	47,054	64,190	21,678	2,026						
Maintenance ..	321,382								192,203	65,938	82,825	22,547	2,225
Other ..	74,745													10,752	3,723	4,946	13,654	2,402
Total ..	817,595	270,846	364,333	125,090	153,596	60,007	6,330	1,798,297					

(a) Year ended 30th June, 1919. (b) Including rents.

2. *Principal Hospitals in each State.*—The tables here given refer to general hospitals. In addition there are hospitals for "specials" (such as women's, children's, and infectious diseases hospitals), and institutions nearly allied to hospitals (such as consumptive sanatoria). Where the institutions carry on general hospital relief, they are included with those establishments.

(i) *New South Wales.* A Government hospital, with a staff of 23 medical officers and accommodation for about 600 patients, is established at Little Bay, near Sydney. Altogether, there are four hospitals for women, one for women and children, and three for children in the metropolis. The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, with a medical staff of 80, and with 544 beds, is the largest metropolitan endowed institution. Amongst other large metropolitan hospitals may be mentioned the Sydney Hospital, with a medical staff of 59 and with 414 beds, St. Vincent's with 52 doctors and 190 beds, and Lewisham with 27 medical attendants and 164 beds. In extra-metropolitan areas the Waterfall Hospital for Consumptives, which is a Government institution, provides accommodation for 408 patients. The Newcastle Hospital has 188 beds and a medical staff of 20. At the Carrington Convalescent Home at Camden, 110 patients may be admitted. The hospital in the Broken Hill district can accommodate 162.

(ii) *Victoria.* There are several large metropolitan hospitals in Victoria. The largest of these, the Melbourne Hospital, has 350 beds; the Austin Hospital for Incurables has 290, the Alfred Hospital 168, St. Vincent's 138, and the Homœopathic 98. Amongst the country institutions, Bendigo has 222 beds, Geelong 217, and Ballarat 170.

(iii) *Queensland.* Of the metropolitan hospitals, the largest is the Brisbane General, which can accommodate 361 patients. The Children's Hospital has 218 beds, the Diamantina 174, and the Mater Misericordiæ 112. Ipswich Hospital, with 146 beds, is the largest of the country institutions, followed by Toowoomba with 130, Rockhampton with 108, Townsville with 105, Maryborough 96, Charters Towers 92, Bundaberg 92, Cairns 84, Mackay 80, and Mt. Morgan 71.

(iv) *South Australia.* Including the Consumptive Home and Infectious Diseases Block, the Adelaide Hospital can accommodate a total of 440 patients. The most important of the country hospitals are at Port Augusta, Port Pirie, and Wallaroo, with 72, 56, and 48 beds respectively. The Adelaide Children's Hospital has 96 beds.

(v) *Western Australia.* Information regarding the capacity of the Western Australian hospitals is not available, but some idea of their comparative importance may be gained from the figures relating to cases treated. In the metropolis, 4,764 cases were treated at the Perth Hospital in 1919, and 1,847 at the Perth Children's. Of the country hospitals, Kalgoorlie returned 1,269 cases, Fremantle 1,094, and Woorlooloo 603.

(vi) *Tasmania.* There are well-equipped general hospitals in Hobart and Launceston. The former has a medical staff of 4 and can accommodate 225 patients, and the latter has 190 beds and a medical staff of 2. Hospitals for women have been established in both centres, and there is a sanatorium for consumptives at Newtown. Outside the metropolitan area, the Devon Cottage Hospital has a medical staff of 2, and beds for 74 patients; the Lyell District Hospital can accommodate 44 patients, and there are 9 other institutions in important country centres.

(vii) *Northern Territory.* In addition to the hospitals at Darwin and Pine Creek, arrangements have been made for the supply of medicines and first aid to outlying stations.

3. *Benevolent and Destitute Asylums.*—A marked increase has taken place in the amount of aid bestowed upon the aged. Two elements, each of them independent of the growth of population, have influenced this increase. One is, that the general age of the community has advanced—the large flow of immigration of sixty and seventy years ago having been mostly of persons in the prime of life; the other is the increased regard

paid in all British communities to the well-being of the helpless. The result in Australia has been that numerous establishments have been founded for the housing and protection of persons no longer able to care for themselves. The institutions are supported by Government and municipal aid, public subscriptions, charity performances, bequests, etc., and in many cases relatives of indigent and afflicted persons contribute to their maintenance.

The impossibility of an entirely satisfactory statistical tabulation in regard to all forms of charitable aid is especially marked in the case of benevolent institutions, since the conditions under which they have been established in the different centres in the Commonwealth have caused divergence in their development and in the classes of cases treated by them. For example, in Western Australia the Home for Destitute Women includes a maternity ward, for which the statistics are not separately kept. Since the predominating function of the institution is aid to the destitute, it has been included among benevolent asylums. In Victoria, nine of the hospitals are also benevolent asylums, and they are included wholly under the former. In South Australia, the Destitute Asylum includes lying-in and children's departments.

BENEVOLENT INSTITUTIONS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1919.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	C'wealth.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue—							
Government aid	94,485	21,784	44,765	32,758	20,864	10,398	225,054
Municipal aid .. ..	..	801	..	..	..	..	801
Public subs., legacies, etc. ..	3,410	13,026	1,359	103	..	..	17,898
Fees	16,208	14,383	..	5,210	4,210	3,414	43,425
Other	3,515	6,308	1,186	323	..	451	11,783
Total	117,618	56,302	47,310	38,394	25,074	14,263	298,961
Expenditure—							
Buildings	4,002	2,384	1,440	251	..	519	8,596
Maintenance	113,189	47,823	24,256	37,988	25,074	8,810	258,640
Other	1,578	2,476	185	..	..	4,934	9,173
Total	118,769	52,183	25,881	38,239	25,074	14,263	274,400

(i) *Government Asylums for the Infirm, New South Wales.* There are five asylums for the infirm maintained by the Government—four for men and one for women. Rookwood, the largest of these, had in 1919 an average number resident of 1,219, Newington 701, and Liverpool 564. At the Cottage Homes, situated at two separate localities in Parramatta, the average number resident was about 410. The State Labour Depot and Refuge at Randwick had 928 inmates during 1919.

(ii) *Benevolent Asylums, Victoria.* Besides the asylums attached to hospitals, there are eight institutions in Victoria. In 1918–19, the average daily number of indoor patients was 1,884, and there were 392 distinct cases of outdoor relief.

(iii) *Benevolent Asylums, Queensland.* There are four institutions in Queensland, with 1,164 beds. The most important of these is at Dunwich (Stradbroke Island) with 1,046 beds, while there are small institutions at Nundah, Rockhampton, and Toowoomba. At the end of 1919 the inmates of the four institutions numbered 1,157.

(iv) *Destitute Asylum, Adelaide.* Outside of hospitals and lunatic asylums the destitute of South Australia are dealt with and relieved at the Destitute Asylum, Adelaide, and at the Aged Men's Home, Beaumont. The former institution includes lying-in and children's departments. In the asylum the number of inmates at the end of 1919 was 352; in the Beaumont Home it was 64.

(v) *Homes for the Destitute, Western Australia.* There are two of these homes in Western Australia supported by public funds. The Old Men's Home at Claremont had 651 inmates at the end of 1919, and the Women's Home, Fremantle, which receives children also, had 82 adult inmates. The children admitted during the year numbered 26.

(vi) *Charitable Establishments, Tasmania.* There are two principal Government charitable establishments in Tasmania. The New Town Infirmary and Consumptive Home, with 220 beds, had 189 inmates at the end of June, 1920, and the Home for Invalids, Launceston, with 24 beds, had 23 inmates on the same date.

4. *Orphanages, Industrial Schools, etc.*—The organisation of charitable effort varies greatly in regard to orphans and waifs. In many institutions shelter and some form of industrial training are offered to destitute children of all classes, whether orphans or not, while some of those styled orphanages do not confine their relief to orphans strictly so called. The figures in the next table are those for institutions where, it is believed, the principal effort is on behalf of those who are really orphans :—

ORPHANAGES IN COMMONWEALTH, 1915 TO 1919.

Particulars.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Number of Institutions	50	48	47	48	49
Admissions	2,376	2,118	1,400	2,679	2,397
Total number of inmates during year ..	4,503	5,061	5,754	7,451	7,330
Deaths	48	35	20	53	69
Expenditure (a) £	93,758	79,526	81,141	114,420	121,305

(a) Incomplete. Expenditure is not available for some orphanages.

(i) *New South Wales.* The care of destitute and neglected children is entrusted to the State Children's Relief Board, whose officers are charged with a strict supervision regarding the welfare of the children and the treatment of them by those to whom they are boarded out. Provision is made for instruction in various trades and callings. The number of children under the Board's supervision in 1919–20 was 15,776. The board's expenditure in that year was £257,366, or £16 6s. 3d. per child.

There are also orphanages, farm homes, country homes for children, etc., with upwards of 1,900 children under care.

There are several reformatory and industrial schools maintained by the State. At the Parramatta Industrial School for Girls, to which a Training Home was attached in 1912, there were on 31st December, 1919, 159 inmates. At the Farm Home for boys, Gosford, there were 86 boys at the end of 1919.

(ii) *Victoria.* There are ten orphanages in Victoria, with 1,756 beds. The daily average of the inmates was 1,737 in 1918–19. The expenditure in the same year was £39,990.

At the end of 1919 there were three industrial and five reformatory schools in the State. Of these, one in each class is wholly controlled by the Government, being used merely as a receiving and distributing depot. The children are sent thence to situations, foster homes, or other institutions dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management, receiving an allowance for State wards. Many of the reformatory children are placed with friends, or licensed out. On 31st December, 1919, the wards of the State numbered 6,131—classed mostly as neglected children. There were also 25 children free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. By a Statute of 1919, certain children boarded out to their mothers ceased to be classed as wards of the State, but payments for their maintenance to the mothers continued. At the end of 1919 there were 6,206 such children. The total expenditure for 1919 was £192,096, of which £181,385 was borne by the Government.

(iii) *Queensland.* There are twelve orphanages in Queensland. The number under care on 31st December, 1919, was 1,107, and the expenditure for the year, £25,881.

There are also seven industrial and reformatory schools, which had 122 boys and 57 girls under detention at the end of 1919. The total number of children under State control at the end of 1919 was 7,770. The gross cost was £122,073, of which £113,601 was borne by the Government.

(iv) *South Australia.* The State Children's Department exercises a supervision over the probationary and industrial schools and the reformatories. The total number of admissions into these institutions in 1919-20 was 294. The number of inmates on the 30th June, 1920, was 229, in addition to which 1,614 were placed out, or had been adopted or apprenticed. There were no deaths amongst children in industrial schools and reformatories, and of those placed out and in other institutions nine died. The number of children under State control on 30th June, 1920, was 3,784, including 1,941 placed out with licensed fostermothers. The expenditure for 1919-20 was £42,178.

There are three orphan asylums. The number under care during 1919 was 375, of whom 261 were inmates on 31st December, 1918. There were no deaths during the year, and the expenditure amounted to £1,791.

(v) *Western Australia.* In Western Australia there were, at the end of 1919, four orphanages, four orphanages and industrial schools, and two industrial schools, containing 462 boys and 407 girls. There were also 8 boys and 14 girls at the Government Receiving Depot. The total number of children in charge of the State Children's Department at the end of 1919 was 1,345, and the net cost £26,493.

(vi) *Tasmania.* There are three industrial schools and one orphanage under benevolent institutions in the State. Admissions in 1919-20 numbered 27, and total inmates during the year 160. No deaths occurred. The expenditure was £4,223.

The New Town Training School for boys had 50 inmates at the end of June, 1920.

Under the boarding-out system upwards of 300 children are placed out. The total number of children under State control at the end of June, 1920, was 465, the net cost to the State of children's relief being £8,012.

(vii) *Neglected Children.* The following table summarises the number of neglected children under State Departments. Included in the figures are children boarded out with their own mothers, the numbers being, New South Wales 10,797, Victoria 6,206 Queensland 4,971, South Australia 324, Western Australia 665, Tasmania 4; the total for the Commonwealth being 22,967.

STATE RELIEF OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN.—TRANSACTIONS OF STATE DEPARTMENTS, 1919.

Particulars.	N.S.W.(a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust. (b)	W. Aust.	Tas. (b)	C'wealth.
Number of Children under State control at end of year—							
Males	(c)	6,458	4,066	1,935	677	234	(d)13,370
Females	(c)	5,904	3,704	1,849	668	231	(d)12,356
Total	15,776	12,362	7,770	3,784	1,345	465	41,502
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gross cost to State of children's relief	257,366	192,096	122,073	42,178	29,643	9,385	652,741
Receipts, from parents' contributions, etc.	6,674	10,711	8,472	4,996	3,150	1,373	35,376
Net cost	250,692	181,385	113,601	37,182	26,493	8,012	617,365

(a) For year ended 5th April following. (b) For the year ended 30th June, 1920.

(c) Details not available. (d) Exclusive of New South Wales.

5. **Lepers.**—Lazarets for the treatment of lepers have been established in New South Wales (Little Bay); Queensland (Peel Island, near Brisbane, and Dayman Island, Torres Strait); and the Northern Territory (Mud Island). Quarantine and isolation stations have also been used for the segregation of patients. Up to 1915, 545 cases of leprosy had been recorded in the Commonwealth. Later figures are not available.

6. **Hospitals for the Insane.**—The method of compiling insanity statistics has been fairly uniform throughout the States, but the various methods of observing the early stages of the development of insanity introduce an element of uncertainty which considerably reduces the value of comparison. In the total given below, licensed houses (except as regards expenditure) are included in the total for New South Wales and Victoria, but in the latter State the figures are exclusive of reception houses and observation wards in gaols:—

HOSPITALS FOR INSANE, COMMONWEALTH, 1915 TO 1919.

Particulars.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
Number of institutions(a)	34	35	34	34	35
Number of beds	16,417	16,673	16,808	17,176	17,308
Admissions	3,118	3,268	3,054	3,192	3,323
Discharged as recovered, relieved, etc. . .	1,491	1,451	1,456	1,406	1,565
Deaths	1,341	1,459	1,306	1,383	1,699
Expenditure £	815,200	861,258	875,963	951,439	1,116,676

(a) Exclusive of receiving wards at general hospitals and including licensed houses for insane in Victoria.

The proportion of insane, as well as the total number returned as under treatment, has changed very little during recent years. In the next table the number of insane under official care in Australia is given, and in the table following, the proportion of insane to population.

The number of insane persons in institutions in Australia at the end of each of the years 1915–1919 was as follows:—

INSANE PERSONS IN THE COMMONWEALTH, 1915 TO 1919.

State.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
New South Wales ..	7,063	7,240	7,340	7,581	7,544
Victoria	5,767	5,793	5,833	5,915	5,846
Queensland	2,441	2,517	2,590	2,623	2,703
South Australia	1,137	1,158	1,176	1,153	1,187
Western Australia ..	1,009	1,045	1,066	1,123	1,148
Tasmania	522	545	570	575	578
Commonwealth ..	17,939	18,298	18,575	18,970	19,006

For the period embraced in the tables Victoria shews the highest rate of insanity, roughly 1 in 250 persons. It is stated that this is chiefly owing to the proportionately greater number of old persons in that State. On the other hand, in South Australia a considerably lower insanity rate has prevailed, averaging about 1 in 380, Tasmania following closely with an average of about 1 in 370.

PROPORTION OF INSANE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION, 1915 TO 1919.

(COMMONWEALTH.)

State.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
New South Wales ..	3.78	3.92	3.88	3.92	3.77
Victoria ..	4.04	4.15	4.13	4.13	3.91
Queensland ..	3.55	3.70	3.83	3.78	3.73
South Australia ..	2.58	2.67	2.70	2.59	2.54
Western Australia ..	3.13	3.38	3.44	3.58	3.46
Tasmania ..	2.62	2.72	2.80	2.75	2.67
Commonwealth ..	3.62	3.75	3.76	3.78	3.62

Consequent upon the development of a more rational attitude towards the treatment of mental cases, a greater willingness is being shown to submit afflicted persons to treatment at an earlier stage than formerly. Hence an increase in the number of recorded cases does not necessarily imply an actual increase in insanity. It is important to bear this in mind, because the small progressive increase in the numbers in the first of the immediately preceding tables is probably to be attributed largely, if not solely, to this circumstance.

The leading features in regard to institutions for the care of the insane are given below for 1919 :—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—NUMBER, STAFFS, ACCOMMODATION, 1919.

(COMMONWEALTH.)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.(a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	C'wealth.
Number of Institutions—							
Government ..	9	9	3	1	3	1	26
Private ..	3	(b) 5	..	..	1	..	(b) 9
Total ..	12	14	3	1	4	1	35
Medical Staff—							
Males ..	22	23	6	3	3	2	59
Females ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	2
Total ..	23	23	7	3	3	2	61
Nursing Staff and Attendants—							
Males ..	626	563	238	91	132	89	1,739
Females ..	501	529	193	61	72	62	1,418
Total ..	1,127	1,092	431	152	204	151	3,157
Accommodation—							
Number of dormitories ..	(c) 353	1,421	584	(f)	44	407	(f)
Capacity in cubic feet ..	c3,582,976	3,593,143	1,000,763	(f)	714,714	878,590	(f)
Number of beds ..	(c) 6,307	5,211	2,680	1,225	1,186	699	17,308
Cubic feet to each bed ..	{ (d) 600 } { (e) 1,000 }	690	709	(f)	605	1,256	(f)

(a) Exclusive of Receiving House, Royal Park, and of the Receiving Wards at Bendigo and Geelong Hospitals. (b) There are five private licensed houses in Victoria, in which there were 91 cases at end of 1919. Complete figures for these private asylums are not available. (c) Government hospitals only. (d) Ordinary dormitory. (e) Hospital dormitory. (f) Information not available.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—PATIENTS TREATED, 1919.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic. (a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	C'wealth.
Admissions and re-admissions during year—							
Males	830	384	305	163	130	63	1,875
Females	654	361	193	122	74	44	1,448
Total	1,484	745	498	285	204	107	3,323
Discharges—Recovered—							
Males	278	83	102	61	34	16	574
Females	277	109	100	32	21	14	553
Total	555	192	202	93	55	30	1,127
Relieved and unrelieved—							
Males	89	69	13	29	6	11	217
Females	70	98	5	35	4	9	221
Total	159	167	18	64	10	20	438
Absconders not retaken—							
Males	8	7	..	..	3	..	19
Females	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	9	7	..	..	3	..	19
Deaths—							
Males	513	259	138	51	76	23	1,060
Females	285	189	60	43	31	31	639
Total	798	448	198	94	107	54	1,699
Number of patients on books at end of year—							
Males	4,336	2,855	1,723	662	795	290	10,666
Females	3,208	2,901	975	523	353	288	8,340
Total	7,544	5,846	2,703	1,187	1,148	578	19,006
Average daily number resident—							
Males	4,216	2,598	1,711	655	786	282	10,248
Females	2,927	2,589	945	523	341	293	7,618
Total	7,143	5,187	2,656	1,178	1,127	575	17,866
Number of patients on books at end of year per 1,000 of population—							
Males	4.28	3.85	4.56	2.95	4.49	2.58	4.03
Females	3.23	3.96	2.82	2.16	2.28	2.76	3.21
Persons	3.77	3.91	3.73	2.54	3.46	2.67	3.62
Average number of patients resident in hospitals for insane per 1,000 of mean population—							
Males	4.28	3.65	4.65	3.05	4.65	2.61	4.00
Females	2.98	3.44	2.74	2.17	2.21	2.84	2.95
Persons	3.63	3.54	3.73	2.58	3.48	2.72	3.47

(a) Exclusive of inmates of the Receiving House, Royal Park, and of Receiving Wards attached to the hospitals at Bendigo and Geelong, and of five private licensed houses.

In some of the States it is the practice to allow persons well advanced towards recovery to leave the institutions and reside with their relatives or friends, but they are nevertheless under supervision of the asylum authorities and are kept on the books. The figures for admission, etc., include absconders captured and readmitted. Very few escapees succeed in avoiding capture.

The revenue of Government asylums is small in comparison with their cost, and consists chiefly of patients' fees. The proportion of expenditure borne by the State amounts to about 88 per cent.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE (GOVERNMENT ONLY), REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1919.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	C'wealth.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue (exclusive of Government Grants)—							
Fees of patients.. ..	52,894	27,784	12,675	15,070	7,120	5,523	121,066
Other	3,028	5,837	1,524	564	1,073	129	12,155
Total	55,922	33,621	14,199	15,634	8,193	5,652	133,221
Expenditure—							
Salaries	201,535	143,420	83,771	21,797	34,284	17,678	502,485
Maintenance	207,809	161,746	83,970	38,345	30,294	30,172	552,336
Buildings .. ..	.. ..	15,717	18,884	.. ..	.. ..	1,035	35,636
Other	20,167	4,366	892	658	.. ..	136	26,219
Total	429,511	325,249	187,517	60,800	64,578	49,021	1,116,676

(i) *New South Wales.* The latest return available shews that the average length of residence in the hospitals of persons who died was 4 years 8 months for males and 5 years 9 months for females; and that of persons who were discharged was 1 year 2 months for males and 1 year 7 months for females.

There are also two State reception houses, where suspected persons are confined for observation, being subsequently either discharged or transferred to lunatic asylums. In two of the gaols observation wards have been instituted, with similar functions.

(ii) *Victoria.* The average residence in the hospitals of those who died was 8 years 3 months for males and 12 years 11 months for females; that of those discharged, 1 year 3 months for males and 1 year 9 months for females.

There are lunacy wards in two of the general hospitals; also a State receiving house where persons are placed for observation, and subsequently discharged or transferred to asylums.

(iii) *Queensland.* The average residence in the institutions of those who died was 8 years 1 month for males and 9 years and 10 months for females; and of those who were discharged, 11 months for males and 1 year for females.

There are also three reception houses for insane, which act as depots to which patients are sent with a view to determining whether their mental illness is of a merely temporary character, easily relieved, or is of such a nature as to need further treatment at the State asylums.

(iv) *South Australia.* The average residence of those who died was 5 years and 2 months for males and 6 years 2 months for females; of those discharged, 1 year and 7 months for males and 1 year and 1 month for females.

(v) *Western Australia.* The period of residence of those who died during the year averaged 6 years 11 months for males and 5 years 8 months for females; of those who were discharged, 11 months for males and 1 year 2 months for females.

(vi) *Tasmania.* The period of residence of those who died was 3 years 10 months for males and 13 years 5 months for females; that of those discharged, 11 months for males and 18 months for females.

(vii) *Causes of Insanity.* The proportion of causes of insanity to the total of ascertained causes in Australia in the five years 1915-19 shews that hereditary influences have been the chief factor, more than one-fifth of the total ascertained causes coming under this head. Domestic troubles, adverse circumstances, etc., have also been a fruitful source. Cases due to intemperance in drink range from one in nine to one in twelve.

**PROPORTION OF ASCERTAINED CAUSES, ETC., OF INSANITY, COMMONWEALTH,
1915 TO 1919.**

Causes, Previous History, etc.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Domestic trouble, adverse circumstances, mental anxiety ..	10.6	9.6	9.7	9.9	8.4
Intemperance in drink ..	11.6	10.3	10.5	10.2	8.7
Hereditary influence, ascertained; congenital defect, ascertained ..	22.9	22.4	21.8	22.1	21.1
Pregnancy, lactation, parturition and puerperal state, uterine and ovarian disorders, puberty, change of life ..	7.1	5.1	6.0	4.9	5.8
Previous attacks ..	13.0	14.9	14.1	14.6	12.4
Accident, including sunstroke ..	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.8
Old age ..	8.2	10.0	9.8	9.4	8.1
Other causes ascertained ..	24.9	25.9	26.2	27.4	33.7
All ascertained causes ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

7. **Treatment of Inebriates.**—The treatment of inebriates is referred to in the section dealing with Public Justice hereinbefore. (See page 821.)

8. **Protection of Aborigines.**—For the protection of the aboriginal Australian race there are institutions, under the supervision of Aborigines Boards, where the blacks are housed and encouraged to work, the children receiving elementary education. The work is usually carried on at mission stations, but many of the natives are nomadic in habit of life, and receive food and clothing when they call, whilst others but rarely come under the notice of the Boards: The native race is extinct in Tasmania. The estimated average annual expenditure on maintenance, &c., for the last five years was—New South Wales, £25,000; Victoria, £4,000; Queensland, £21,000; South Australia, £21,000; Western Australia, £26,000; Northern Territory, £3,000; total for Commonwealth, £100,000. In New South Wales the average number receiving monthly aid in 1919 was 2,582; in Victoria there are about 300 under the care of the Aborigines Protection Board; in Queensland, at the end of 1919, there were 2,705 aborigines at the mission stations; in South Australia, there were 777 inmates at mission stations, while in Western Australia the aborigines and half-castes in the native institutions numbered 384. At the mission stations in the Northern Territory about 300 were in residence, but casual assistance and medical attendance are given to large numbers of natives every year.

9. **Royal Life Saving Society.**—In each of the State capitals, “centres” of the Royal Life Saving Society have been established. Life preservation is the object of the Society, and its immediate aims are (a) educative and (b) remedial. By stimulating the acquirement of the art of swimming in schools, colleges, clubs, etc., it is desired to bring about a widespread and thorough knowledge of natation and life-saving; while life-belts, reels, lines, and other first-aid appliances are provided on ocean beaches and at places where they are likely to be in demand. Upwards of 3,000 certificates of proficiency in various grades are annually issued after examination.

10. **Royal Humane Society.**—The Royal Humane Society of Australasia has for its objects (a) to grant awards for skill, promptness, and perseverance in life saving; (b) to provide assistance in cases of danger and apparent death; (c) to restore the apparently drowned; (d) to collect and circulate the latest information regarding approved methods and apparatus for life saving. Awards of medals and certificates are made numbering about 100 annually. Upwards of 350 lifebuoys have been provided at various places on the coasts, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs in the various States. Swimming is encouraged amongst school children, and awards are made for proficiency.

11. **Other Charitable Institutions.**—Owing to variety of name and function of other charitable institutions it has been found impracticable to give detailed results. The aid given in kind—food, clothing, tools of trade, etc.—is considerable, whilst the shelter and treatment afforded range from a bed for a night for casual callers in establishments ministering minor charity, to indoor treatment over long periods in those that exist for the relief of the aged and infirm. The institutions not so particularised include asylums for the deaf, dumb, and blind, maternity institutions and infant homes, homes for the destitute and aged poor, industrial colonies, night shelters, crèches, homes of hope, rescue homes, free kindergarten and ragged schools, auxiliary medical charities, free dispensaries, benevolent societies and nursing systems, ambulance and health societies, boys' brigades, humane and animals' protection societies, prisoners' aid associations, shipwreck relief societies, bush fires and mining accident relief funds, etc.

12. **State Expenditure on Charities.**—The table below gives the amount expended by Government on charities in each of the last five years, the figures for the various States being compiled, as far as possible, on the same basis :—

STATE EXPENDITURE ON CHARITIES, 1915 TO 1919.

State or Territory.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.
	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales ..	779,303	876,767	863,713	962,901	1,148,360
Victoria ..	541,668	525,682	543,225	541,817	578,055
Queensland ..	307,899	324,143	372,342	417,743	516,944
South Australia ..	167,272	162,849	191,748	166,250	195,687
Western Australia ..	228,064	247,589	178,477	249,361	289,404
Tasmania ..	78,092	79,494	88,445	95,867	121,371
Northern Territory ..	4,864	5,649	4,488	4,156	6,178
Commonwealth ..	2,107,162	2,222,173	2,242,438	2,438,095	2,855,999

13. **Total Charitable Expenditure.**—The expenditure in the Commonwealth in money on hospitals, charities, and all forms of relief publicly given, comprising the amounts furnished by Government and those raised by public subscription, etc., but excluding old-age pensions, exceeds £4,600,000 annually.