

1905.

VICTORIA.

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# HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

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## R E P O R T

OF THE

## INSPECTOR OF LUNATIC ASYLUMS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER,

1904.

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PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO ACT 54 VICT. No. 1113, SECTION 79.

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# REPORT.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE,  
Inspector's Office,  
Melbourne, 1st June, 1905.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit my Report on the condition of the Lunatic Asylums in Victoria for the year ended 31st December, 1904, as required by Section 79 of the Lunacy Act, No. 1113.

There were 4,642 patients on the registers of the asylums on the 31st December—an increase of 72 for the year—the numbers on 1st January being 4,570.

The increase for 1901, was 40; for 1902, 46; and for 1903, 23.

Of the persons registered on the asylum books as insane, 4,389 were resident in the various institutions, 219 were on probation, and 34 were boarded out with guardians under the boarding-out regulations of the Department.

There were 4 patients under care in the Lunacy Ward attached to the Bendigo Hospital at the end of the year.

The persons admitted during 1904 numbered 737 as against 754 for the previous year.

Appended will be found the usual statistical tables, showing the various changes which have taken place during the year among the patients, also returns showing the expenditure of the Department for maintenance, &c.

TABLE I.—Showing the Distribution of the Insane on 31st December, 1904.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
<b>In the Public Lunatic Asylums—</b>			
Yarra Bend ... ..	409	312	721
Kew ... ..	430	385	815
Kew Idiot Asylum ... ..	174	131	305
Ararat ... ..	375	305	680
Beechworth ... ..	371	273	644
Sunbury ... ..	299	376	675
Ballarat ... ..	218	331	549
	<b>2,276</b>	<b>2,113</b>	<b>4,389</b>
<b>On Probation—</b>			
Yarra Bend ... ..	23	25	48
Kew ... ..	64	74	138
Kew Idiot Asylum ... ..	6	4	10
Ararat ... ..	3	4	7
Beechworth ... ..	3	4	7
Sunbury ... ..	2	3	5
Ballarat ... ..	2	2	4
	<b>103</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>219</b>
<b>Boarded out from—</b>			
Yarra Bend ... ..	1	4	5
Kew ... ..	1	2	3
Kew Idiot Asylum ... ..	2	1	3
Ararat ... ..	4	10	14
Beechworth ... ..	5	1	6
Sunbury ... ..	1	1	2
Ballarat ... ..	...	1	1
	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Total number of registered lunatics on the books of the Public Asylums ... ..</b>			
	<b>2,393</b>	<b>2,249</b>	<b>4,642</b>
<b>In the Lunacy Ward at—</b>			
Castlemaine ... ..	...	...	...
Bendigo ... ..	2	2	4
Geelong ... ..	...	...	...
<b>Total number of registered lunatics in the State ... ..</b>			
	<b>2,395</b>	<b>2,251</b>	<b>4,646</b>

TABLE II.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths in the Public Lunatic Asylums during the Year ending 31st December, 1904.

—	Males.			Females.			Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
In the Asylum, 1st January, 1904, including 184 on trial and 37 boarded out ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,371	2,199	4,570
Cases admitted :—									
First admissions ... ..	363	301	664						
Not first admissions ... ..	41	43	84						
Retaken ... ..	...	...	...	404	344	748			
				12	1	13			
Total cases admitted during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	416	345	761
Total cases under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,787	2,544	5,331
Cases discharged :—									
Recovered ... ..	153	124	277						
Relieved ... ..	28	37	65						
Not improved ... ..	1	...	1						
Died ... ..	198	133	331						
Escaped ... ..	...	...	...	380	294	674			
				14	1	15			
Total cases discharged and died during the year ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	394	295	689
Remaining in the Asylum, 31st December, 1904, including 219 on trial and 34 boarded out ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,393	2,249	4,642
Average number resident during the year ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,275	2,091	4,367
Persons under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,762	2,536	5,298
Persons admitted ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	396	341	737
Persons recovered ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	124	274
Transferred from one Asylum to another ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	78	86	164

TABLE III.—Showing the Previous Attacks among Persons Admitted during the Year 1904.

Number of Previous Attacks.	Persons.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Have had one attack ... ..	49	43	92
Have had two attacks ... ..	7	7	14
Have had three attacks ... ..	3	3	6
Have had four attacks ... ..	...	2	2

TABLE IV.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality, and Proportion of Recoveries per cent. of the Admissions, for each Year since the 1st January, 1890.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.						Died.			Remaining 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.			
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.															
1890	438	311	749	168	126	294	17	24	41	...	...	...	161	103	264	2,066	1,703	3,769	1,954	1,588	3,542	38.35	40.51	39.25	8.24	6.48	7.45
1891	427	318	745	170	137	307	25	16	41	...	...	...	201	92	293	2,090	1,778	3,868	1,993	1,630	3,623	39.81	43.08	41.21	10.08	5.64	8.09
1892	399	307	706	142	144	286	20	22	42	...	...	...	181	102	283	2,136	1,818	3,954	2,045	1,681	3,726	35.59	46.90	40.51	8.85	6.07	7.59
1893	384	296	680	153	102	255	25	40	65	...	...	...	177	94	271	2,161	1,877	4,038	2,112	1,748	3,860	39.84	34.46	37.50	8.38	5.37	7.02
1894	402	293	695	124	97	221	21	43	64	...	...	...	207	118	325	2,205	1,911	4,116	2,119	1,793	3,912	30.84	33.11	31.80	9.77	6.58	8.31
1895	377	277	654	115	106	221	25	41	66	...	...	...	211	114	325	2,221	1,927	4,148	2,125	1,804	3,929	30.50	38.26	33.79	9.93	6.32	8.27
1896	384	305	689	114	96	210	19	37	56	...	...	...	231	129	360	2,234	1,970	4,204	2,147	1,823	3,970	29.69	31.47	30.48	10.76	7.08	9.07
1897	435	341	776	117	100	217	39	47	86	...	...	...	209	115	324	2,292	2,049	4,341	2,203	1,884	4,087	26.89	29.33	27.96	9.49	6.10	7.93
1898	396	324	720	127	108	235	25	38	63	...	...	...	233	133	366	2,300	2,094	4,394	2,202	1,936	4,138	32.07	33.33	32.63	10.58	6.87	8.84
1899	428	364	792	183	169	352	27	51	78	...	...	...	197	151	348	2,314	2,084	4,398	2,230	1,976	4,206	42.76	46.43	44.44	8.83	7.64	8.27
1900	366	335	701	162	119	281	21	39	60	...	...	...	205	148	353	2,286	2,113	4,399	2,259	2,002	4,261	44.26	35.52	40.09	9.07	7.39	8.28
1901	418	351	769	174	125	299	11	16	27	...	...	...	202	128	330	2,307	2,194	4,501	2,242	2,050	4,292	41.62	35.61	38.88	9.01	6.24	7.68
1902	455	341	796	176	182	358	28	27	55	...	...	...	203	129	332	2,354	2,193	4,547	2,262	2,086	4,348	38.68	53.37	44.97	8.97	6.18	7.63
1903	432	334	766	165	159	324	27	24	51	...	...	...	217	145	362	2,371	2,199	4,570	2,275	2,073	4,348	38.19	47.60	42.29	9.53	6.99	8.32
1904	404	344	748	153	124	277	24	36	60	...	...	...	198	133	331	2,393	2,249	4,642	2,275	2,091	4,367	37.87	36.04	37.03	8.70	6.36	7.58
Total	6,145	4,841	10,986	2,243	1,894	4,137	354	501	855	...	...	...	3,033	1,834	4,867	...	...	...	2,163	1,877	4,040	36.50	39.12	37.65	9.34	6.51	8.03

TABLE V.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality, and Proportion of Recoveries and of Relieved per cent. of the Admissions for the Year ended 31st December, 1904.

Asylum.	Admitted.			Discharged.						Died.			Remaining on 31st December, 1904.			Average Numbers Resident during 1904.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.																		
Yarra Bend	138	106	244	41	31	72	5	12	17	56	19	75	433	341	774	400	314	714	29.71	29.25	29.51	3.62	11.32	6.96	14.00	6.05	10.50
Kew ...	134	139	273	47	51	98	10	17	27	39	28	67	495	461	956	434	392	826	35.07	36.69	35.89	7.46	12.23	9.89	7.87	7.14	8.11
Kew Idiot Asylum	23	18	41	...	...	...	6	2	8	8	10	18	182	136	318	172	131	303	...	...	...	26.08	11.11	19.51	4.65	7.63	5.94
Ararat ...	49	42	91	35	19	54	...	2	2	36	16	52	382	319	701	379	301	680	71.43	45.24	59.34	...	4.76	2.19	9.49	5.31	7.65
Beechworth	23	12	35	9	3	12	2	1	3	30	19	49	379	278	657	382	252	634	39.13	25.00	34.28	8.69	8.33	8.57	7.85	7.54	7.72
Sunbury ...	35	24	59	14	14	28	3	1	4	23	25	48	302	380	682	296	367	663	40.00	58.33	47.45	8.57	4.16	6.77	7.77	6.81	7.23
Ballarat ...	2	3	5	7	6	13	2	2	4	6	16	22	220	334	554	212	334	547	...	...	...	...	...	...	2.83	4.79	4.02
Total ...	404	344	748	153	124	277	28	37	65	198	133	331	2,393	2,249	4,642	2,275	2,091	4,367	37.87	36.04	37.03	6.93	10.75	8.69	8.70	6.36	7.58

TABLE VI.—History of Admissions since the opening of the first Asylum in 1848.

	Admissions.			Numbers.			Number per cent. of Admissions.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Discharged:—									
Recovered ... ..	...	...	...	5,649	4,777	10,426	29'33	33'27	31'02
Relieved... ..	...	...	...	788	948	1,736	4'09	6'60	5'16
Not improved (including transfers) ... ..	...	...	...	4,007	3,097	7,104	20'81	21'57	21'13
Died ... ..	...	...	...	6,422	3,286	9,708	33'34	22'89	28'88
Out on trial and boarded out on 31st December, 1904 ... ..	...	...	...	117	136	253	6'61	9'95	7'75
Remaining ... ..	...	...	...	2,276	2,113	4,389	11'82	14'72	13'06
Total ... ..	19,259	14,357	33,616	19,259	14,357	33,616	100'00	100'00	100'00

TABLE VII.—Showing the Length of Residence in those Discharged Recovered, and in those who have Died, during the Year 1904.

Length of Residence.	Recovered.			Died.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 month ... ..	10	6	16	11	8	19
1 month and under 3 months ... ..	41	23	64	15	10	25
3 months " 6 " ... ..	37	36	73	21	6	27
6 " " 9 " ... ..	24	19	43	17	7	24
9 " " 12 " ... ..	17	15	32	16	5	21
1 year and under 2 years ... ..	12	13	25	21	16	37
2 years " 3 " ... ..	3	5	8	12	9	21
3 " " 5 " ... ..	1	3	4	12	11	23
5 " " 7 " ... ..	4	2	6	16	11	27
7 " " 10 " ... ..	2	1	3	10	17	27
10 " " 12 " ... ..	1	1	2	4	7	11
12 " " 15 " ... ..	1	...	1	7	8	15
15 " " 20 " ... ..	...	...	...	8	6	14
20 " " 25 " ... ..	...	...	...	12	6	18
25 " " 30 " ... ..	...	...	...	3	2	5
30 " " 35 " ... ..	...	...	...	4	...	4
35 " " 40 " ... ..	...	...	...	6	2	8
40 " and over ... ..	...	...	...	3	2	5
Total ... ..	153	124	277	198	133	331

TABLE VIII.—Showing in Quinquennial Periods the Ages of those Admitted, Recovered, and Died, during the Year 1904, and of those Remaining on 31st December, 1904.

Ages.	The Admissions.			Recovered.			The Deaths.			Patients Resident 31st December, 1904.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 5 years ... ..	3	3	6	...	...	...	...	2	2	5	2	7
5 years and under 10 years ... ..	7	3	10	...	...	...	2	1	3	28	15	43
10 " 15 " ... ..	3	5	8	...	...	...	...	2	2	45	39	84
15 " 20 " ... ..	18	25	43	4	7	11	2	2	4	60	59	119
20 " 25 " ... ..	21	29	50	10	13	23	6	5	11	108	82	190
25 " 30 " ... ..	42	37	79	21	14	35	12	4	16	150	150	300
30 " 35 " ... ..	50	50	100	25	24	49	9	9	18	285	219	504
35 " 40 " ... ..	48	40	88	24	16	40	15	8	23	286	261	547
40 " 45 " ... ..	41	40	81	20	12	32	17	5	22	302	244	546
45 " 50 " ... ..	42	21	63	14	7	21	20	11	31	228	214	442
50 " 55 " ... ..	28	17	45	8	11	19	11	17	28	194	170	364
55 " 60 " ... ..	15	12	27	7	4	11	7	6	13	155	189	344
60 " 65 " ... ..	9	9	18	5	4	9	14	14	28	164	185	349
65 " 70 " ... ..	18	11	29	3	3	6	13	8	21	135	139	274
70 " 75 " ... ..	13	10	23	...	2	2	30	10	40	74	80	154
75 " 80 " ... ..	8	7	15	2	1	3	9	13	22	41	47	88
80 " 85 " ... ..	7	4	11	...	...	...	6	6	12	12	16	28
85 " 90 " ... ..	4	...	4	...	...	...	4	2	6	8	7	15
90 " 100 " ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Unknown ... ..	27	21	48	10	6	16	21	8	29	113	130	243
Total ... ..	404	344	748	153	124	277	198	133	331	2,393	2,249	4,642

TABLE IX.—Return of Patients on Probation under Section 87.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Out on probation on 1st January, 1904	87	97	184
Allowed out during the year	226	289	515
Total ...	313	386	699
Recovered and Relieved :—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	22	29	51
Of those allowed out during the present year	44	61	105
Total ...	66	90	156
Died :—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	4	2	6
Of those allowed out during the present year	3	2	5
Total ...	7	4	11
Written off the books under section 89, Act 1113 :—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	18	24	42
Of those allowed out during the present year	6	12	18
Total ...	24	36	60
Returned to the Asylums at expiration of probation :—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	39	41	80
Of those allowed out during present year	74	99	173
Total ...	113	140	253
Remaining under care out of the Asylums on 31st December, 1904	103	116	219

TABLE X.—Return of Patients Boarded out during the Year 1904.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Boarded out on 1st January, 1904	14	23	37
Allowed out during the year	4	9	13
Total ...	18	32	50
Returned to the Asylums by their guardians :—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	3	9	12
Of those allowed out during present year	1	3	4
Total ...	4	12	16
Remaining Boarded out on 31st December, 1904	14	20	34

TABLE XI.—Showing the Manner in which Patients were Admitted during the Year 1904.

	Yarn Bend.	Kew.	Kew Idiot Asylum.	Ararat.	Beechworth.	Sunbury.	Ballerat.	Total.
Lunatics sent to the Asylums by their friends ...	Male	25	74	18	8	1	8	134
	Female	42	110	9	23	6	3	194
" " the police ...	Male	97	56	4	39	20	27	243
	Female	57	26	6	19	5	21	136
" received from Benevolent Asylums ...	Male	3	1	...	...	1	...	5
	Female	3	...	...	...	...	...	3
" " Hospitals ...	Male	...	1	...	...	1	...	2
	Female	...	3	...	...	1	...	4
" " Gaols ...	Male	13	...	...	2	...	2	17
	Female	4	...	...	...	...	...	4
" " all other institutions (including transfers)	Male	2	6	1	13	2	7	81
	Female	5	4	6	...	34	23	17
Total ...	251	281	44	104	71	89	72	912
Escaped patients retaken	Male	3	1	...	...	3	1	12
	Female	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total admissions	255	282	44	104	74	90	76	925



TABLE XII.—Showing the Nationalities and Religious Persuasions of those admitted for the first time during the Year 1904.

Birthplaces.	Religious Persuasions.										Total.
	Protestant.					Roman Catholic.	Pagan.	Hebrew.	Mahome-tan.	Unascertained.	
	Church of England.	Presby-terian.	Wesleyan.	Lutheran.	Other Protestant Denomi-nations.						
Victoria ... ..	135	64	43	4	33	110	...	2	...	5	396
Other Colonies and British Possessions	30	5	7	...	5	5	...	...	2	...	54
England ... ..	72	...	9	1	7	6	...	1	...	2	98
Scotland ... ..	2	23	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	27
Ireland ... ..	12	3	...	...	1	45	...	...	...	2	63
France ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Germany ... ..	2	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	...	1	10
China ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Other Countries ...	4	4	1	6	4	6	...	1	...	...	26
Not known ... ..	23	9	1	...	9	25	...	1	...	4	72
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>280</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>748</b>

TABLE XIII.—Showing the Average Number of Patients employed in attending Amusements and Divine Service.

Particulars.	Males.	Females.	Total.
<b>In the Workshops (Male)—</b>			
Blacksmiths ... ..	13	...	13
Carpenters ... ..	26	...	26
Mattress-makers ...	7	...	7
Shoemakers ... ..	27	...	27
Tailors ... ..	32	13	45
Mat-makers ... ..	26	...	26
Painters ... ..	19	...	19
Basket-workers ...	1	...	1
<b>In the Workshops (Female)—</b>			
Sewing (making-up and repairing clothing)	...	285	285
Fancy work ... ..	...	95	95
<b>Miscellaneous occupations—</b>			
Working on the farm	242	...	242
" in the garden	146	4	150
" in the kitchen	47	25	72
" in the store	9	...	9
" in the laundry	...	306	306
" in the wards and airing courts	560	404	964
" as servants at private quarters	35	22	57
" on roads and ornamental grounds	138	...	138
Other work about the establishment	144	22	166
<b>Amusements—</b>			
Balls and concerts ...	706	663	1,369
Billiards and reading-room	304	240	544
Cards, chess, dominoes, &c.	332	200	532
Bowls, cricket, croquet, football, and tennis	405	213	618
Walking and driving	564	619	1,183
<b>Attending divine service ...</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>724</b>	<b>1,590</b>
" school ... ..	172	123	295

TABLE XIV.—Return showing the Quantity of Produce supplied by the Farms and Gardens at the various Lunatic Asylums during the year 1904.

Asylum.				Butter.	Eggs.	Meat, Poultry, &c.	Milk.	Vegetables.	Fruit.
				lbs.	doz.	lbs.	qts.	lbs.	lbs.
Yarra Bend	...	...	...	554	1,196	1,643	80,315	291,722	1,979
Kew	...	...	...	...	2,650	2,854	113,380	407,216	7,783
„ Idiot Asylum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,524	...
Ararat	...	...	...	680	472	535	67,873	188,317	556
Beechworth	...	...	...	110	257	344	64,292	215,966	27,925
Sunbury	...	...	...	1,178	881	164	63,034	208,968	14,585
Ballarat	...	...	...	221	259	1,450	53,977	195,734	1,542

  

Asylum.				Bacon.	Lard.	Green Food.	Hay.	Peas.	Root Crops.	Straw.	En- silage.
				lbs.	lbs.	tons.	tons.	bushels.	tons.	tons.	tons.
Yarra Bend	...	...	...	...	...	49	140	...	120	...	...
Kew	...	...	...	3,378	60	255	130	270	350	15	30
„ Idiot Asylum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ararat	...	...	...	...	...	60	60	...	28	...	25
Beechworth	...	...	...	...	...	130	80	...	15	...	...
Sunbury	...	...	...	...	...	100	80	34	42	6	50
Ballarat	...	...	...	...	...	115	60	...	82	...	20

TABLE XV.—Showing the Total Receipts and Expenditure of Hospitals for the Insane during the Year 1904.

Receipts.								Amount.		
Collections by the Master-in-Lunacy for maintenance of patients at—								£	s.	d.
Yarra Bend	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,607	1	0	
Kew	...	...	...	...	...	...	7,869	0	11	
Ararat	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,636	8	3	
Beechworth	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,658	3	3	
Sunbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,540	18	1	
Ballarat	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,127	15	0	
Lunacy Wards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Amount of sales	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,384	13	8	
„ fines	...	...	...	...	...	...	46	7	6	
Miscellaneous collections	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	12	7	
<b>Total</b>	...	...	...	...	...	...	<b>17,902</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	

  

Expenditure.								Amount.		
General expenses								£	s.	d.
Maintenance—								2,261	14	0
Yarra Bend	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,225	16	6	
Kew	...	...	...	...	...	...	32,094	12	8	
Ararat	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,465	11	6	
Beechworth	...	...	...	...	...	...	16,682	7	11	
Sunbury	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,151	3	6	
Ballarat	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,933	7	8	
Lunacy Ward, Bendigo	...	...	...	...	...	...	294	14	0	
„ „ Castlemaine	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	11	0	
„ „ Geelong	...	...	...	...	...	...	77	15	0	
Expenses in connexion with committal and transport of lunatics	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,461	9	4	
„ „ „ boarded-out patients	...	...	...	...	...	...	573	10	4	
<b>Total</b>	...	...	...	...	...	...	<b>131,236</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5</b>	



TABLE XVII.—Showing the Average Weekly Cost of Maintenance per Patient—*continued.*

Lunatic Asylum.	Forage.	Incidentals.	Total Weekly Cost of Maintenance per Patient.		Average Collections per Week for Maintenance, Sales, Fines, Fees, &c.			Weekly Cost per Patient, Deducting Collections for Maintenance, Sales, Fines, Fees, &c.		
			£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Yarra Bend ...	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	12 6	0	1 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	11 0 $\frac{1}{4}$		
Kew ...	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	10 11	0	2 10	0	8 1		
Ararat ...	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 1	0	12 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	11 1		
Beechworth ...	...	0 0 1	0	10 1 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	8 11 $\frac{3}{4}$		
Sunbury ...	...	0 0 1	0	10 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0	1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0	9 6		
Ballarat ...	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	10 6	0	1 0	0	9 6		
Total ...	...	...	0	11 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	1 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0	9 7		
General expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	0 2 $\frac{1}{4}$		

TABLE XVIII.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year ended 31st December, 1904, in Lunacy Wards at Bendigo, Castlemaine, and Geelong.

				Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
In the wards, 1st January, 1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	6
Cases admitted—									
Admissions	...	...	...	53	39	92	...	...	...
Total cases admitted during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	39	92
Total cases under care during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	59	39	98
Cases discharged—									
Recovered	...	...	...	38	23	61			
Not improved— Transferred to the Public Lunatic Asylums	...	...	...	14	12	26			
Died	...	...	...	5	2	7			
Total cases discharged and died during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	57	37	94
Remaining in the wards, 31st December, 1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4

TABLE XIX.—Showing the Number of Patients Visited and the Number of Miles Travelled by the Inspector of Lunatic Asylums during 1904.

	Number of Patients on Day of Visit.		Number of Miles Travelled.			Number of Patients on Day of Visit.		Number of Miles Travelled.	
	Number.	Total.	Number.	Total.		Number.	Total.	Number.	Total.
Yarra Bend—					Beechworth—				
March 25	708		2		March 16	639		345	
June 28	697		2		June 15	636		345	
September 29	724		2		September 7	621		345	
December 22	724		2		December 7	641		345	
		2,853		8			2,537		1,380
Kew—					Sunbury—				
Visited by the official visitors and by the Inspector, who is resident.					January 14	666		49 $\frac{1}{2}$	
					March 24	664		49 $\frac{1}{2}$	
					June 9	661		49 $\frac{1}{2}$	
					July 22	652		49 $\frac{1}{2}$	
					September 21	660		49 $\frac{1}{2}$	
					December 20	676		49 $\frac{1}{2}$	
							3,979		297
Ararat—					Ballarat—				
March 9	685		320		March 10	546		150	
June 1	677		320		June 2	542		150	
September 14	676		320		September 15	559		150	
December 14	672		320		December 15	550		150	
		2,710		1,280			2,197		600
							14,276	...	3,565

*Changes in the Distribution of the Insane.*—The number of patients under care at each of the asylums at the end of the year as compared with the number on 1st January, show that changes have taken place as follow :—

- At Yarra Bend an increase of 18.
- At Kew a decrease of 25.
- At the Idiot Asylum an increase of 19.
- At Ararat a decrease of 13.
- At Beechworth an increase of 2.
- At Sunbury an increase of 8.
- At Ballarat an increase of 31.

It will be seen from these figures that the number of patients actually under care in all the asylums had increased by 40 during the twelve months. The transfers for the year numbered 164, the greater number of which were from the metropolitan to the country asylums to fill vacancies.

*Admissions.*—For the year under notice the number of persons admitted was 737. This is a decrease in the number for the last two years—the figures for 1903 being 754 and 784 for 1902. The population of the State was 1,210,304 on 31st December, and the ratio of persons admitted to the population was 1 in 1,642.

The proportion for the last three years was as follows :—1901—1 in 1,596; 1902—1 in 1,537; 1903—1 in 1,603.

There was one person registered in the State for every 260 of the general population as compared with 1 in 264 for 1903, and 1 in 265 for 1902.

*Discharges, Recovered.*—The recovery rate calculated on the admissions was 37·03 per cent., and the relieved rate 8·69, or a total of 45·72 per cent. This is a lower rate than for the year 1903, but compares well with the average for the last fifteen years. There were 277 patients reported as recovered, and 65 as relieved during the year. In considering the recovery rate of our asylums it should be remembered that the large number of patients allowed to leave on probation lowers the recovery rate; it is, however, to the advantage of the patients to send them from the asylums to the care of friends.

*Mortality.*—The number of deaths which took place during 1904 was 331. These figures show a percentage of 7·58 on the average number of patients resident during the year, and is the lowest death rate for the last eleven years. The average death rate for the last fifteen years was 8·03.

*Casualties.*—G. H. M., a male patient in the Yarra Bend Asylum, committed suicide by hanging himself in the dormitory where he slept with other patients. L. J., a patient at the Idiot Asylum, was suffocated by some food getting into the gullet when she was taking her dinner. She had fed herself since admission; the food was of a proper nature and a nurse was in the room. P. McC., also a patient in the Idiot Asylum, vomited about an hour after dinner; some of the vomited matter got into the gullet and caused death. Inquests were held in these cases and no blame was attached to any of the Asylum officials. In 16 instances patients sustained fractures of various bones. Inquiries were made in all cases and no blame attached to those in charge.

*Contagious Diseases.*—A case of diphtheria occurred at Ararat, and one of typhoid fever at Sunbury. With these exceptions the asylums were free from the severer forms of contagious disease.

*Restraint and Seclusion.*—It is satisfactory to again have to report that our asylums have been worked practically on the non-restraint system.

*Night Nursing.*—No improvement in the night nursing was effected during the year. No doubt this matter will receive early attention from the Inspector-General of the Insane.

*Female Nurses in Male Wards.*—The work of these nurses has been carried on without difficulty, and in a satisfactory manner. There seems no reason why a larger number of suitable male patients should not be placed under the care of females.

*Overcrowding.*—No new buildings were erected, and the overcrowding at the various asylums has therefore increased.

*Cost of Maintenance.*—Tables XV., XVI. and XVII. show the expenditure of the Department for the year. The total expenditure was £131,236 13s. 5d. as compared with £135,795 2s. 6d. for the previous year—a decrease of £4,558 9s. 1d. The lower contract rates for meat, bread, and potatoes are accountable to a large extent for the reduction in expenditure. The actual cost of maintenance was £126,552 19s. 9d., and the average weekly cost per patient was 11s. 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. Deducting from this the average amount per patient received for collections, &c., *i.e.*, 1s. 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. a week, it will be seen that the net weekly cost was 9s. 7d. The net weekly cost for 1903 was 9s. 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ d., and for 1902, 10s. 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. The amount collected by the Master-in-Lunacy for maintenance of patients was £16,439 6s. 6d., and £1,462 13s. 9d. was realized by the sale of stock, fines, &c., at the various asylums.

*General Remarks.*—It has been admitted on many occasions that the Victorian asylums are not up to as high a standard as those of more favoured countries, and the reasons for this state of things have been pointed out. There is reason to hope that the new Lunacy Act will enable improvements in the near future that were not attainable in the past. The reforms already effected will, no doubt, assist the Inspector-General in the very difficult task he has before him.

I again thank the members of the staff for the assistance and support during the last eleven years, and trust they will help in placing the Victorian asylums in the first rank of such institutions.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

J. V. McCREERY,

Inspector of Lunatic Asylums.

The Honorable the Chief Secretary.