

1916.
VICTORIA.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF THE INSANE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER,

1915.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO ACT 6 GEO. V.
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REPORT.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT,
Office of the Inspector-General of the Insane,
Melbourne, 1st September, 1916.

To the Honorable the Chief Secretary.

SIR,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of this Department for the year 1915, together with the usual statistical tables. Included are reports of the various Hospitals and Receiving Houses, a *resumé* of the work done by the Licensed Houses, a report from the Pathologist, and a statistical return of the persons admitted to the various institutions as voluntary boarders.

So far as the State Hospitals are concerned, there is an increase of 61 patients at the end of the year, but of the registered insane the increase is 35 only; these numbers, however, do not include voluntary boarders and cases of mental disorder in soldiers returned from overseas—both of which cases are regarded and classified separately. In the latter case, a special Military Mental Hospital has been opened at Royal Park by taking over the female side of the Receiving House, the proposition being to take over the male side also when the numbers require such increased accommodation. At the end of the year there were 6 cases in residence, and these were all under the care of our female staff. This arrangement came into being at the instance of the Defence Department, and was provided for by the passing of a War Mental Treatment Act by the State Parliament of Victoria—which legislation has since been copied by Parliaments in other States; it aims at the provision of proper care and treatment, without the stigma of certified insanity being attached to them, for those soldiers who have left these shores to fight for their country.

The voluntary boarder clauses of the Amending Act of 1914 have come into full effect this year, and have resulted in the admission of 41 males and 34 females into the State Institutions, principally into the Receiving Houses, whilst 5 males and 10 females were received into Licensed Houses, making a total of 90 persons who applied voluntarily and were so admitted.

The admission rate to Hospitals and Receiving Houses has been a high one; it is not to be expected that it could be a low one, considering the storm and stress that we have all suffered this year. The discharge rate has been a normal one, but the death rate, below the average in the previous three years, is an unusually high one. There are also slight decreases in the number of those out on trial leave and boarded out.

The perpetual question of additional lunacy accommodation is again beginning to be a serious one, and will require sympathetic attention, in view of the fact that annually some 80 persons, on an average, are added to the number of those requiring the particular care that this Department affords.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. ERNEST JONES,
Inspector-General of Insane.

TABLE I.—Showing the Distribution of the Insane on 31st December, 1915.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
In the Hospital for the Insane at—						
Yarra Bend	272	321	593			
Kew	503	404	907			
Kew Idiot Asylum	169	150	319			
Ararat	368	282	650			
Beechworth	356	269	625			
Sunbury	452	506	958			
Ballarat	224	396	620			
Royal Park	59	35	94			
Mont Park	211	154	365			
				2,614	2,517	5,131
Out on trial leave from—						
Yarra Bend	43	61	104			
Kew	78	102	180			
Kew Idiot Asylum	6	8	14			
Ararat	8	5	13			
Beechworth	3	3	6			
Sunbury	9	33	42			
Ballarat	6	16	22			
Royal Park	41	70	111			
Mont Park	2	8	10			
				196	306	502
Boarded out from—						
Yarra Bend ... ..	...	...	...
Kew ... ..	...	5	5			
Kew Idiot Asylum ... ..	...	...	...
Ararat	1	1	2			
Beechworth	3	...	3			
Sunbury	44	32	76			
Ballarat	23	24	47			
Royal Park ... ..	...	...	...
Mont Park	1	...	1			
				72	62	134
Total number of registered lunatics on the books of the Public Hospitals						
	...	...	...	2,882	2,885	5,767
In the Licensed Houses—						
Sunnyside	10	6	16			
Mount Ida	2	12	14			
Merton ... ..	...	18	18			
Glen Holme ... ..	...	21	21			
The Tofts ... ..	...	7	7			
				12	64	76
Out on trial leave from Licensed Houses—						
Sunnyside	3	...	3			
Mount Ida ... ..	...	5	5			
Merton ... ..	...	5	5			
Glen Holme ... ..	...	5	5			
The Tofts ... ..	...	...	...
Cloverdale ... ..	...	1	1			
				3	16	19
Total number of registered lunatics in the State						
	...	...	...	2,897	2,965	5,862

TABLE II.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year ended 31st December, 1915.

	Males.			Females.			Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
In the Hospitals, 1st January, 1915	...	...	...	2,591	2,479	5,070			
On trial ... ..	...	...	...	218	296	514			
Boarded out ... ..	...	...	...	77	68	145			
Total number on books, 1st January, 1915 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,886	2,843	5,729
Cases admitted—									
First admissions	371	315	686						
Not first admissions ..	* 63	75	138						
Escaped patients retaken ... ..	...	...	...	434	390	824			
Total cases admitted during the year ... ..	...	...	...	28	4	32	462	394	856
Total cases under care during the year ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,348	3,237	6,585
Cases discharged—									
Recovered	108	110	218						
Relieved	56	37	93						
Not improved	† 8	2	10						
Died	262	199	461						
Escaped ... ..	...	...	...	434	348	782			
Total cases discharged and died during the year ... ..	...	...	...	32	4	36	466	352	818
Remaining in the Hospitals, 31st December, 1915 ... ..	...	...	...	2,614	2,517	5,131			
Patients on leave ... ..	...	...	...	196	306	502			
„ boarded out .. ..	...	...	...	72	62	134			
Total number on books, 31st December, 1915 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,882	2,885	5,767
Average number resident during the year ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,622	2,509	5,131
Persons under care during the year ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,317	3,230	6,547
Persons admitted ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	428	382	810
Persons recovered ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	108	110	218
Transferred from one Hospital to another ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	88	195

* Including transfers from licensed houses.

† Including transfers to licensed houses.

TABLE III.—Showing the Previous Attacks among Persons Admitted during the Year 1915.

Number of Previous Attacks.	Persons.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Have had one attack	67	87	154
Have had two attacks	13	15	28
Have had three attacks	2	1	3
Have had four attacks	1	...	1
Have had five attacks ... ..	...	...	...
Have had six attacks ... ..	...	...	...
Have had seven attacks	1	...	1

TABLE IV.—Showing the Number of Registered Insane on the Books of the Public Hospitals for the Insane and the Private Licensed Houses at the end of each year from 1891 to 1915 inclusively, and the Number of Patients in the Receiving Houses and Receiving Wards.

Year.	Hospitals for the Insane.			Private Licensed Houses.			Total of Registered Insane.	Increase.	Receiving Houses and Receiving Wards.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.			Males.	Females.	Total.
1891	2,090	1,778	3,868	...	...	...	3,868	...	1	1	2
1892	2,136	1,818	3,954	...	...	...	3,954	86	1	2	3
1893	2,161	1,877	4,038	...	...	...	4,038	84	...	3	3
1894	2,205	1,911	4,116	...	...	...	4,116	78	...	...	...
1895	2,221	1,927	4,148	...	...	...	4,148	32	2	1	3
1896	2,234	1,970	4,204	...	...	...	4,204	56	6	2	8
1897	2,292	2,049	4,341	...	...	...	4,341	137	4	1	5
1898	2,300	2,094	4,394	...	...	...	4,394	53	2	1	3
1899	2,314	2,084	4,398	...	...	...	4,398	4	1	...	1
1900	2,286	2,113	4,399	...	...	...	4,399	1	...	1	1
1901	2,307	2,194	4,501	...	...	...	4,501	102	2	1	3
1902	2,354	2,193	4,547	...	...	...	4,547	46	2	1	3
1903	2,371	2,199	4,570	...	...	...	4,570	23	6	...	6
1904	2,393	2,249	4,642	...	...	...	4,642	72	2	2	4
*1905	2,436	2,332	4,768	...	3	3	4,771	129	...	...	...
1906	2,484	2,389	4,873	13	51	64	4,937	166	5	2	7
†1907	2,548	2,413	4,961	21	70	91	5,052	115	11	14	25
1908	2,557	2,457	5,014	22	75	97	5,111	59	12	13	25
1909	2,612	2,485	5,097	30	73	103	5,200	89	19	22	41
1910	2,655	2,586	5,241	30	78	108	5,349	149	22	25	47
1911	2,681	2,659	5,340	25	84	109	5,449	100	19	17	36
1912	2,758	2,712	5,470	20	89	109	5,579	130	25	28	53
1913	2,839	2,792	5,631	12	93	105	5,736	157	36	25	61
1914	2,886	2,843	5,729	12	86	98	5,827	91	27	23	50
1915	2,882	2,885	5,767	15	80	95	5,862	35	29	29	58

* Private Licensed Houses recognised.

† Receiving House opened September, 1907.

NOTE.—This table shows the total number of the registered insane in the State, *i.e.*, patients in the Hospitals for the Insane, those boarded out or on trial leave, and those in the Private Licensed Houses or on trial therefrom. It includes patients resident in Receiving Houses and Wards at the end of the year separately, but does not include returned soldiers, of whom there were six in the special Military Mental Ward, nor do voluntary boarders appear on this list. Of the latter there were 21 remaining at the end of the year, 12 being men and 9 women. This year's increment to the total number of the registered insane is the smallest for many years.

TABLE V.—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, 1891.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.			Died.			Remaining 1st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.			
				Recovered.			Relieved.															
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1891	427	318	745	170	137	307	25	16	41	201	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	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	2,161	1,877	4,038	2,119	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	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	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	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	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	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	2,314	2,081	4,395	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	2,286	2,113	4,399	2,259	2,002	4,261	44.26	35.52	40.09	9.07	7.39	8.20
1901	418	351	769	174	125	299	11	16	27	202	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	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	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	2,393	2,249	4,642	2,275	2,091	4,367	37.87	36.04	37.03	8.70	6.36	7.58
1905	400	338	738	149	101	250	22	17	39	184	2,436	2,332	4,768	2,304	2,151	4,455	37.25	29.88	33.87	7.98	6.32	7.18
1906	402	371	773	151	122	273	40	47	87	156	2,484	2,389	4,873	2,323	2,200	4,523	37.56	32.88	35.32	6.71	6.23	6.47
1907	417	311	728	112	107	219	35	33	68	191	2,548	2,413	4,961	2,346	2,225	4,571	26.85	34.40	30.08	8.14	6.15	7.17
1908	405	334	739	115	82	197	42	50	92	229	2,557	2,455	5,014	2,392	2,253	4,645	28.39	24.55	26.65	9.57	6.65	8.16
1909	455	310	765	138	100	238	26	31	57	224	2,612	2,485	5,097	2,379	2,274	4,653	30.33	32.26	31.11	9.41	6.4	7.97
1910	422	380	802	93	84	177	43	44	87	233	2,655	2,586	5,241	2,412	2,304	4,716	22.03	22.10	22.07	9.66	5.85	7.80
1911	428	389	817	120	94	214	24	45	69	244	2,681	2,659	5,340	2,452	2,364	4,816	28.04	24.16	26.19	9.96	6.68	8.35
1912	456	350	806	96	104	200	40	38	78	235	2,758	2,712	5,470	2,529	2,409	4,938	21.05	29.71	24.81	9.29	6.27	7.82
1913	494	354	858	117	81	198	50	41	91	238	2,839	2,792	5,631	2,535	2,448	4,983	23.68	22.25	23.08	9.39	6.33	7.89
1914	445	362	807	128	92	220	40	43	83	210	2,886	2,843	5,729	2,584	2,462	5,046	28.76	25.41	27.26	8.12	7.06	7.60
1915	434	390	824	108	110	218	56	37	93	262	2,882	2,885	5,767	2,622	2,509	5,131	24.88	28.21	26.46	9.99	7.93	8.98
Total	10,465	8,429	18,894	3,402	2,845	6,247	755	903	1,658	5,278	3,410	8,688	57,367	52,176	109,543	32.51	33.75	33.06	9.20	6.54	7.93	
	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,294	2,087	4,381						

TABLE VI.—Showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, with the Mean Annual Mortality and Proportion of Recoveries and of Relieved per cent. of the Admissions for each Asylum, for the Year ended 31st December, 1915.

Asylum	Admitted.			Discharged.			Died.			Remaining on 31st December, 1915.			Average Number Resident during 1915.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.						
	Recovered			Relieved.			Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female				
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total																			Male	Female	Total	Male
Yarra Bond	32	78	110	5	6	11	9	7	16	31	25	56	315	382	697	271	299	570	15.62	7.69	10.00	28.12	8.97	14.54	11.43	8.36	9.82	
Kew	200	137	337	29	37	66	37	25	62	87	50	137	581	511	1,092	504	405	909	14.50	27.05	19.58	18.50	18.25	18.39	14.96	9.78	12.55	
Kew Idiot Asylum	18	17	35	9	13	22	175	158	333	172	149	321	5.14	8.24	6.61
Ararat	17	8	25	9	4	13	2	...	2	21	15	36	377	288	665	376	279	655	52.94	50.00	52.00	11.76	...	8.00	5.58	5.37	5.49	
Beechworth	8	5	13	9	3	12	1	1	2	36	28	64	362	272	634	370	278	648	112.50	60.00	92.31	12.5	20.00	15.38	9.73	10.10	9.88	
Sunbury	63	57	120	26	24	50	3	1	4	53	36	89	505	571	1,076	449	511	960	41.27	42.11	41.67	4.76	1.75	3.33	11.8	7.04	9.27	
Ballarat	34	32	66	10	11	21	4	1	5	22	29	51	253	436	689	226	395	621	29.41	34.37	31.81	11.76	3.12	7.57	9.73	7.34	8.21	
Royal Park	58	51	109	16	22	38	...	2	2	2	1	3	100	105	205	64	48	112	27.58	43.14	35.12	...	3.92	1.83	3.12	2.08	2.67	
Mont Park	4	5	9	4	3	7	...	...	...	1	2	3	214	162	376	190	145	335	100.00	60.00	77.77	...	...	...	...	1.37	1.89
Total	434	390	824	108	110	218	56	37	93	262	199	461	2,882	2,885	5,767	2,622	2,509	5,131	24.88	28.21	26.46	12.90	9.49	11.29	9.99	7.93	8.98	

TABLE VII.—Showing the Length of Residence in those Discharged Recovered, and in those who have Died, during the Year 1915.

Length of Residence.	Recovered.			Died		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1 month	5	4	9	11	5	16
1 month and under 3 months	10	3	13	10	8	18
3 months " 6 "	19	16	35	37	14	51
6 " " 9 "	13	17	30	21	11	32
9 " " 12 "	18	13	31	12	8	20
1 year and under 2 years	26	28	54	33	22	55
2 years " 3 "	8	9	17	18	14	32
3 " " 5 "	7	15	22	30	23	53
5 " " 7 "	1	4	5	13	6	19
7 " " 10 "	1	...	1	9	5	14
10 " " 12 "	...	1	1	7	7	14
12 " " 15 "	...	...	...	8	7	15
15 " " 20 "	...	...	...	12	13	25
20 " " 25 "	...	...	...	7	9	16
25 " " 30 "	...	...	...	12	13	25
30 " " 35 "	...	...	...	5	7	12
35 " " 40 "	...	...	...	5	8	13
40 " and over	...	...	...	12	19	31
Total	108	110	218	262	199	461

TABLE VIII.—Showing the Duration of the Disorder on Admission in the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year 1915.

Class.	The Admissions.			The Discharges.						The Deaths.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Recovered.			Removed Believed or Otherwise.			Male.	Female.	Total.
				Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.			
FIRST CLASS— First attack, and within three months on admission	185	155	340	52	50	102	19	25	44	80	47	127
SECOND CLASS— First attack, above three and within twelve months on admission	67	49	116	12	13	25	6	1	7	45	15	60
THIRD CLASS— Not first attack, and within twelve months on admission	60	75	135	26	27	53	20	5	25	19	21	40
FOURTH CLASS— First attack or not, but of more than twelve months on admission	50	56	106	5	11	16	14	8	22	45	50	95
FIFTH CLASS— Congenital	33	28	61	1	...	1	1	...	1	13	17	30
Unknown	39	27	66	12	9	21	4	...	4	60	49	109
Total	434	390	824	108	110	218	64	39	103	262	199	461

TABLE IX.—Showing in Quinquennial Periods the Ages of those Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, Not Improved, Escaped not Retaken, and Died, during the Year 1915, and of those Remaining on 31st December, 1915.

Ages.	Admitted.		Recovered.				Discharged.				Escaped patients not retaken.		Died.		Remaining on 31st December, 1915.			
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Relieved.		Not Improved.		Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	
						Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.									Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Under 5 years	3	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 years and under 10 years	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	7	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	21	20	3	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	30	28	12	16	28	7	2	9	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25	48	32	14	16	30	6	5	11	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
30	47	39	12	11	23	3	3	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35	39	48	13	18	31	8	5	13	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
40	46	43	10	14	24	9	5	14	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	36	42	12	6	18	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
50	46	36	9	13	22	5	5	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	30	26	13	6	19	4	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
60	22	22	4	4	8	1	2	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
65	23	12	4	2	6	2	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
70	14	8	1	1	2	3	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
75	7	8	...	...	...	2	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
80	9	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
85	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
90	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Unknown...	2	3	1	3	4	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	434	390	108	110	218	56	37	93	8	2	10	5	...	5	262	199	461	2,882
Mean Age, Hospitals for Insane	44.5	43.3	43.7	40.9	43.6	41.5	46.8	43.1	44.1	44.2	40.0	43.3	49	...	56.2	59.4	57.6	45.8
Mean Age, Idiot Asylum	11.6	9.7	10.7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.8	21.9	18.6	19.2

TABLE X.—Showing the Probable Causes of Insanity in the Patients Admitted during the Year 1915.

Causes of Insanity.	Number of Instances in which each Cause was Assigned.											
	Admissions {									No. of Cases —		
										434 Males, 390 Females, 824 Total.		
	As Predisposing Cause.			As Exciting Cause.			As Predisposing or Exciting (where these could not be distinguished).			TOTAL.		
Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
MORAL.												
Domestic Trouble (including loss of relatives and friends)	...	...	...	1	9	10	...	...	...	1	9	10
Adverse Circumstances (including business anxieties and pecuniary difficulties)...	1	...	1	10	15	25	...	...	...	11	15	26
Mental Anxiety and Worry (not included under the above two heads), and Over Work ...	2	...	2	13	23	36	...	...	...	15	23	38
Religious Excitement ...	...	...	...	4	1	5	...	...	...	4	1	5
Love Affairs (including seduction) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fright and Nervous Shock ...	...	...	...	1	5	6	...	...	...	1	5	6
PHYSICAL.												
Intemperance in Drink ...	...	...	...	35	21	56	...	...	...	35	21	56
Intemperance (sexual) ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Venereal Disease ...	1	...	1	58	11	69	...	...	...	59	11	70
Self Abuse (sexual) ...	1	...	1	11	1	12	...	...	...	12	1	13
Over Exertion ...	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	...	...	1	1	2
Sunstroke ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accident or Injury ...	2	2	4	7	2	9	...	...	...	9	4	13
Pregnancy ...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	2
Parturition and the Puerperal state ...	...	...	...	...	13	13	...	...	...	...	13	13
Lactation ...	...	...	...	...	6	6	...	...	...	...	6	6
Uterine and Ovarian Disorders ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
Puberty ...	...	...	...	1	3	4	...	...	...	1	3	4
Change of Life ...	...	...	...	...	26	26	...	...	...	...	26	26
Fevers ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1
Privation and Starvation ...	1	...	1	7	1	8	...	...	...	8	1	9
Old Age ..	31	23	54	21	25	46	...	...	...	52	48	100
Other Bodily Diseases or Disorders ...	7	3	10	16	18	34	...	...	...	23	21	44
Previous Attacks ...	25	35	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	35	60
Hereditary Influences ascertained (direct and collateral)	58	81	139	1	1	2	...	...	...	59	82	141
Congenital Defect ascertained	34	20	54	16	14	30	...	...	...	50	34	84
Other ascertained Causes ...	4	1	5	4	1	5	...	...	...	8	2	10
Unknown ...	18	46	64	39	47	86	18	14	32	75	107	182
Epilepsy ...	1	1	2	19	8	27	...	...	...	20	9	29
Auto-Intoxication ...	...	...	...	2	6	8	...	...	...	2	6	8
Total ...	186	212	398	268	262	530	18	14	32	472	488	960
Deduct for combined Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	98	136
Total Admissions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	434	390	824

TABLE XI.—Showing the Form of Mental Disorder on Admission in the Admissions, Recoveries, and Deaths for the Year 1915, and the Form of Mental Disorder of the Patients remaining on Books on 31st December, 1915.

Form of Mental Disorder.	Admissions.			Recoveries.			Deaths.			Remaining on Books.		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
I. Congenital or infantile mental deficiency (idiotcy or imbecility) occurring as early in life as it can be observed—												
1. Intellectual :												
(a) With epilepsy ...	13	15	28	...	...	...	9	9	18	76	81	157
(b) Without epilepsy ...	32	21	53	1	...	1	7	8	15	368	272	640
2. Moral ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
II. Insanity occurring later in life—												
1. Insanity with Epilepsy ...	24	13	37	2	...	2	11	9	20	128	152	280
2. General Paralysis of the Insane ...	60	8	68	...	...	...	67	10	77	114	14	128
3. Insanity of the grosser brain lesions ...	7	2	9	1	...	1	4	2	6	13	3	16
4. Acute delirium (acute delirious mania)	2	4	6	4	1	5	...	1	1	7	2	9
5. Confusional Insanity ...	9	14	23	4	3	7	5	7	12	18	30	48
6. Stupor ...	1	4	5	3	2	5	...	2	2	2	1	3
7. Primary Dementia ...	57	45	102	17	25	42	12	7	19	221	258	479
8. Mania :												
(a) Recent ...	23	39	62	8	20	28	9	5	14	44	43	87
(b) Chronic ...	3	1	4	...	2	2	2	1	3	67	117	184
(c) Recurrent ...	19	28	47	10	14	24	3	4	7	37	52	89
9. Melancholia :												
(a) Recent ...	30	54	84	17	20	37	5	15	20	34	39	73
(b) Chronic ...	2	6	8	3	4	7	1	1	2	45	57	102
(c) Recurrent ...	13	17	30	2	4	6	2	3	5	17	26	43
10. Alternating Insanity ...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	4	11	15
11. Delusional Insanity :												
(a) Systematized ...	32	31	63	9	5	14	5	10	15	95	113	208
(b) Non-systematized ...	29	16	45	14	6	20	16	4	20	179	156	335
12. Volitional Insanity :												
(a) Impulse ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(b) Obsession ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
(c) Doubt ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13. Moral Insanity ...	1	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
14. Dementia :												
(a) Senile ...	43	43	86	3	...	3	51	49	100	197	185	382
(b) Secondary or Terminal ...	25	21	46	3	4	7	42	42	84	980	996	1,976
On trial leave, or boarded out ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	3	9	217	264	481
Not Insane ...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Korsakow ...	6	2	8	2	...	2	...	...	...	9	4	13
Alcoholic Hallucinosiis ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	3
Drug Habit ...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
Convalescent ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Total ...	434	390	824	108	110	218	262	199	461	2,882	2,885	5,767

TABLE XII.—Showing the condition as to Marriage in Patients Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, Not Improved, Escaped not Retaken, and Died during the Year 1915, and of Patients Resident, 31st December, 1915.

Condition in Reference to Marriage.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Escaped Patients not Retaken.	Died.	Patients Remaining. 31st December, 1915.						
	M.	F.	Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.					M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	
				M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.									
Single ...	237	161	398	67	50	117	31	15	48	4	...	4	5	...	5	137	62	199	1,941	1,490	3,431
Married	143	162	305	34	50	84	18	18	36	3	2	5	...	...	...	69	74	143	587	929	1,516
Widowed	29	47	76	3	10	13	5	4	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	42	70	81	229	310
Unknown	7	3	10	4	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	19	8	27	98	79	177
Total	416	373	789	108	110	218	56	37	93	8	2	10	5	...	5	253	186	439	2,707	2,727	5,434

NOTE.—Excluding patients at the Idiot Asylum, none of whom are married.

TABLE XIII.—Showing the Station or Occupation of Patients admitted during the Year 1915.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
<i>Professional—</i>			
Clergy, military and naval officers, members of the medical and legal professions, architects, authors, artists, civil engineers, surveyors, &c.	14	...	14
<i>Commercial—</i>			
Bankers, merchants, accountants, clerks, shopkeepers, shopmen, &c.	36	...	36
<i>Agricultural and Pastoral—</i>			
Farmers, squatters, graziers, free selectors, &c.	30	1	31
<i>Mechanics, Tradesmen, &c., actively employed and in outdoor avocations—</i>			
Blacksmiths, carpenters, engine-fitters, firemen, sawmen, &c.	66	...	66
<i>Mechanics, Tradesmen, &c., employed at sedentary or indoor occupations—</i>			
Bootmakers, bookbinders, compositors, weavers, tailors, &c. ...	34	3	37
<i>Soldiers and Sailors</i>	2	...	2
<i>Domestic Service—</i>			
Waiters, cooks, servants, &c.	12	8	20
<i>Miners, Labourers, Seamen, Shepherds, &c.</i>	173	2	175
<i>Educational and Higher Domestic—</i>			
Governesses, teachers, housekeepers, trained nurses, &c. ...	3	37	40
<i>Ordinary Domestic Work—</i>			
Servants, charwomen, laundresses, &c. ... ..	...	204	204
<i>Commercial (actively employed)—</i>			
Shopkeepers, saleswomen, &c. ... ..	...	3	3
<i>Commercial (employed in sedentary occupations)—</i>			
Tailoresses, needlewomen, machinists, bookbinders, factory workers, &c.	1	25	27
<i>Wives of Professional Men—</i>			
Clergy, military and naval officers, members of the medical and legal professions, architects, artists, authors, civil engineers, surveyors, &c.	...	3	3
<i>Wives of Commercial Men—</i>			
Bankers, merchants, accountants, clerks, shopkeepers, shopmen, &c.	...	9	9
<i>Wives of Tradesmen, Mechanics, &c.—</i>			
Blacksmiths, carpenters, engine-fitters, firemen, sawyers, painters, police, bootmakers, bookbinders, compositors weavers, tailors, &c.	...	19	19
<i>Wives of Agricultural and Pastoral Men—</i>			
Farmers, squatters, graziers, free selectors, &c. ... ..	...	7	7
<i>Wives of—</i>			
Miners, labourers, seamen, shepherds, &c. ... ..	...	8	8
<i>No Occupation</i>	31	25	56
<i>Unknown</i>	14	18	32
Total	416	373	789

NOTE.—Excluding patients at Idiot Cottages.

TABLE XV.—Return of Patients on Probation under Section 93.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Out on probation on 1st January, 1915	218	296	514
Allowed out during the year	196	259	455
Total ...	414	555	969
Recovered—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	43	71	114
Of those allowed out during the present year	24	30	54
Total ...	67	101	168
Died—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	5	6	11
Of those allowed out during the present year	6	6	12
Total ...	11	12	23
Written off the books under section 94, Act 1873—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	39	24	63
Of those allowed out during the present year	4	3	7
Total ...	43	27	70
Returned to the Asylum at expiration of probation—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	43	48	91
Of those allowed out during the present year	54	61	115
Total ...	97	109	206
Remaining under care out of the Asylum on 31st December, 1915	196	306	502

TABLE XVI.—Return of Patients Boarded Out.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Boarded out on 1st January, 1915	77	68	145
Boarded out during the year	4	3	7
Total ...	81	71	152
Died—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	6	2	8
Of those allowed out during the present year	...	..	...
Total ...	6	2	8
Escaped and not retaken	1	...	1
Returned to the Asylum—			
Of those allowed out during previous years	1	7	8
Of those allowed out during the present year	1	...	1
Total ...	2	7	9
Remaining boarded out of the Asylum on 31st December, 1915	72	62	134

TABLE XVII.—Showing the Manner in which Patients were Admitted during the Year 1915.

		Institutions.									Total.
		Yarra Bend.	Kew.	Kew Idiot Asylum.	Ararat.	Beechworth.	Sunbury.	Ballarat.	Royal Park.	Mont Park.	
Lunatics sent to the Asylum by their friends ...	M	3	37	11	6	3	6	1	1	1	69
	F	7	37	10	7	1	7	7	2	1	79
" " by the police ...	M	...	72	2	9	4	15	8	12	1	123
	F	...	29	3	1	4	16	3	3	...	59
" received from Receiving Houses and Wards	M	28	99	1	...	...	54	24	43	1	250
	F	70	80	6	...	...	44	19	39	2	260
" " Benevolent Asylums ...	M	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	3
	F	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
" " Hospitals ...	M	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
	F	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	3
" " Gaols ...	M	1	1	...	1	1	2	...	1	1	8
	F	1	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	5
" " all other institutions, including transfers	M	7	5	5	8	10	1	1	2	48	87
	F	...	6	3	11	10	1	9	10	19	69
Total ...		117	370	41	44	33	151	76	113	74	1019
Escaped patients retaken ...	M	4	6	1	1	3	8	3	1	1	28
	F	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	4
Total admissions ...		122	376	42	45	36	161	80	114	75	1051

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

Birthplaces.	Religious Persuasions.										Total.
	Protestant.					Roman Catholic.	Pagan.	Hebrew.	Mahome-tan.	Unascertained.	
	Church of England.	Presby-terian.	Methodist	Lutheran.	Other Protestant Denomi-nations.						
Victoria ...	182	91	60	3	28	156	...	...	...	8	528
Other Colonies and British Possessions	35	8	6	...	7	19	...	1	2	1	79
England ...	60	5	16	...	8	3	...	1	...	1	94
Scotland ...	1	14	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	16
Ireland ...	14	5	...	...	1	40	...	...	...	...	60
France ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Germany ...	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	1	7
China ...	1	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other Countries	1	2	1	1	1	3	...	2	2	2	15
Not known	3	...	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	9	18
Total ...	298	126	85	7	46	229	...	5	4	22	822

TABLE XIX.—Showing the Average Number of Patients Usefully Employed and attending Amusements and Divine Service.

Particulars.	Male.	Female	Total.
In the Workshops (Male)—			
Blacksmith and Engineer	23	...	23
Carpenter	18	...	18
Mattress-maker	9	...	9
Shoemaker	27	...	27
Tailor	23	...	23
Painter	16	...	16
Mat-making	4	...	4
In the Workshops (Female)—			
Sewing (making-up and repairing clothing) ... ..	...	272	272
Fancy work ... ..	...	105	105
Tailoress ... ..	...	17	17
Mattress making ... ..	...	...	...
Miscellaneous Occupations—			
Working on the farm	213	...	213
" in the garden and lawns	143	...	143
" in the kitchen	51	60	111
" in the store	14	...	14
" in the laundry ... ..	...	308	308
" in the wards and airing courts	438	563	1,001
" as servants at private quarters	49	47	96
" on roads and ornamental grounds	219	2	221
Other work about the establishment	89	58	147
Total number usefully employed	1,236	1,432	2,668
Percentage number usefully employed	47·13	57·07	52·00
Amusements—			
Balls and concerts	765	825	1,590
Billiards and reading room	332	205	537
Cards, chess, dominoes, &c.	515	302	817
Bowls, cricket, croquet, football, and tennis	341	151	692
Walking and driving	588	603	1,191
Attending Divine Service...	1,006	1,048	2,054

STATE HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

ADMISSIONS.

The subjoined table compares the numbers of those admitted into the State Hospitals for the Insane in each of the last five years :—

	1911.			1912.			1913.			1914.			1915.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
First Admissions ..	366	315	681	411	298	709	461	331	792	407	306	713	371	315	686
Not First Admissions	62	74	136	45	52	97	33	33	66	38	56	94	63	75	138
Totals ..	428	389	817	456	350	806	494	364	858	445	362	807	434	390	824

There has been a fall in the population of Victoria of some 13,000 persons—presumably largely owing to the number of soldiers who have gone to the front. With a somewhat increased admission rate, the ratio of insane to population has risen to the highest yet recorded, viz., 1 in 241·8.

In contrast with 1914 there have been fewer first admissions but more relapses during 1915.

CAUSATION.

This table sets forth the incidence of the principal causes :—

Year.	Admissions.	Heredity.		Venereal.		Alcoholism.		Congenital Defect.	
		Cases.	Percentage.	Cases.	Percentage.	Cases.	Percentage.	Cases.	Percentage.
1905 ..	738	46	6·23	4	·54	70	9·48	50	6·78
1906 ..	773	102	13·19	6	·78	74	9·57	70	9·06
1907 ..	728	57	7·83	15	2·06	64	8·79	56	7·69
1908 ..	739	74	10·01	5	·68	65	8·80	78	10·55
1909 ..	765	75	9·80	15	1·96	49	6·41	49	6·41
1910 ..	802	66	8·23	58	7·23	84	10·47	53	6·61
1911 ..	817	74	9·06	74	9·06	97	11·87	66	8·08
1912 ..	806	152	18·86	76	9·43	114	14·14	78	9·68
1913 ..	858	174	20·28	83	9·67	139	15·03	96	11·19
1914 ..	807	118	14·62	85	10·53	79	9·79	83	10·29
1915 ..	824	141	17·12	70	8·50	56	6·80	84	10·19

In this table the Venereal influence is probably rated too low, as no less than 68 cases have been admitted diagnosed as General Paralysis.

Psychic causes are returned more largely this year than for some years; the inference that this is caused by the war is inevitable.

DISCHARGES.

The subjoined table deals with the number of those discharged during the year. There is nothing especially noteworthy of attention :—

Discharged.	1905.	1906.	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Recovered ..	250	273	219	197	238	177	214	200	198	220	218
Relieved ..	39	87	68	92	57	85	67	73	85	83	93
Not Improved ..	..	10	16	15	14	23	29	11	10	9	10
Totals ..	289	370	303	304	309	285	310	284	293	312	321
Receiving Houses and Wards ..	..	..	36	172	219	237	264	277	275	323	253
Total discharges ..	289	370	339	476	528	522	574	561	568	635	574

DEATHS.

Year.	Total Deaths.	Deaths from General Paralysis.	Deaths from Pithisis.	Deaths from Pneumonia.	Deaths from Goutis.	Daily Average Number Resident.	Percentage of Deaths on Average Number Resident.
1905	320	16	20	50	2	4,455	7·18
1906	293	24	45	50	8	4,523	6·47
1907	328	32	45	67	7	4,571	7·17
1908	379	45	30	65	11	4,645	8·16
1909	371	52	37	43	19	4,653	7·97
1910	368	52	27	65	16	4,716	7·80
1911	402	57	27	77	16	4,816	8·35
1912	385	56	30	56	18	4,938	7·82
1913	393	59	35	60	15	4,983	7·89
1914	384	59	34	41	2	5,046	7·60
1915	451	76	38	66	20	5,131	8·98

The death rate this year is unusually high. It is, in point of fact, the highest we have yet recorded. The probability is that there has been an accumulation of old cases owing to the fact that during recent years the death rate has been steadily falling. Senile conditions account for some 12 per cent. of the total number of deaths. One female patient whilst absent with her friends on trial leave committed suicide.

Accidents was responsible for two deaths. In one case a female patient's clothes caught fire whilst she was working at a gas stove; the burning was so serious as to cause a fatal result. In another case, a patient in the Criminal Ward tore a strip from his bedcover and succeeded in causing his death by strangulation. In neither case could any blame be attached to the attendant staff.

BOARDED OUT ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1915.

Patients boarded out to—	Males.	Females	Total.
Private Individuals	7	7	14
Ballarat Benevolent Asylum	22	24	46
Castlemaine Benevolent Asylum	23	11	34
Bendigo Benevolent Asylum	20	20	40
Totals	72	62	134

There were 8 deaths amongst those boarded out during the year.

NURSING EXAMINATIONS, 1915.

	Candidates.	Passed.	Failed
Junior—Attendants ...	56	46	10
Nurses ...	109	64	45
Senior—Attendants ...	32	30	2
Nurses ...	30	26	4
Special—Attendants ...	4	...	4
Nurses ...	6	5	1

Two examinations were held during the year for Junior Nurses and Attendants, and one each for the Seniors and those taking the Merit Examination. I have to acknowledge the valuable help afforded me in this work by Dr. Gamble and Dr. Godfrey.

Generally speaking, the results were good, more especially amongst the Senior Nurses and Attendants—those who are qualifying themselves for the certificate of the Department, which testifies to the fact that they are trained mental nurses. It is highly desirable that when an Act for the Registration of Nurses becomes law, it will include provision for the registration of Mental Nurses and Attendants also.

GENERAL PARALYSIS.

—	1907.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.			1913.			1914.			1915.		
						M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.	M.	F.	T.
Admissions ..	42	48	44	68	69	65	11	76	75	13	88	66	17	83	60	8	68
Deaths ..	22	46	54	52	57	47	9	56	53	6	59	50	9	59	68	8	76

Whilst there has been a slight drop in the number of cases admitted said to be suffering from General Paralysis, the number of deaths has risen. At the end of the year, however, there were 114 males and 14 females resident in the institutions who were said to be suffering from General Paralysis. If one was ever optimistic that the wave of General Paralysis had reached its maximum and was receding, it is now quite certain that we shall get a recrudescence, and that for the next 25 years or more the numbers of this fell disease will continue to increase.

ALCOHOLISM.

—			1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
Males ..	..	..	63	56	78	96	64	35
Females ..	..	..	21	35	36	43	15	21
Totals ..	..	..	84	91	114	139	79	56

The admissions of cases in which Alcoholism is the prime factor have materially diminished. Only 56 have been returned as suffering from some form of alcoholic psychosis. This coincides with the fact that less cases of alcoholism have been admitted to the Inebriate Retreats, and fewer convictions have been recorded for drunkenness. It is possible that we have been more temperate in 1915, and the decrease is more noticeable in the male sex—pointing to a war influence.

VOLUNTARY BOARDERS.

The new order of things created by the amended Act is worthy of special comment. In former reports I have emphasized the necessity for the provision of means whereby patients desirous of so doing may submit themselves voluntarily for admission, care, and treatment into our institutions, and this year is the first completed year in which this has been possible.

At the end of 1914 there were 17 voluntary boarders remaining—16 in Receiving Houses and Hospitals, and 1 in a Licensed House. During the year 90 persons made voluntary application, and were admitted. One man was admitted 4 times for recurrent alcoholic disturbances; 4 men and 2 women were admitted twice; 70 were discharged, and 16 were certified as insane, leaving 21 in residence at the end of the year.

Table I. sets out the movements in greater detail, and Table II. gives the diagnoses of the cases admitted. It will be observed that 30 are returned as "Melancholia"—possibly the majority would have been better described as "Simple Depression"—and that alcoholism is put down as a form of mental disorder, but it must not be taken that all of these cases were merely inebriates—some of them were cases of Korsakow's disease. Doubtless many of these voluntary admissions could have been certified at once as insane, but the majority, at any rate, were cases in which one would honestly endeavour to secure a successful issue without certification.

Certain institutions and selected wards in the other institutions were proclaimed under the regulations as being appropriate for the reception of these voluntary cases, and, as is only to be expected, the Receiving Houses and the Royal Park Hospital were the institutions to which applications were principally made.

The success of this step will more than ever tend to diminish the recovery rate, but that is, after all, quite a secondary matter which has been held up in other Lunacy Departments where Receiving Houses do not exist, and under which no

voluntary principle is recognised as an index of good management. The real desideratum is to get incipient cases of mental disorder under observation and treatment at as early a date as possible. If a Department can successfully deal with such cases without certification, it will be doing its duty to the State in the best possible manner, and will be approximating its methods to the highest hospital ideals. The next step will be to secure special mental wards and an out-patient department in general hospitals, as has been indicated in previous reports. If any additional evidence of such a necessity were required, it would be found in the fact that the Military Hospitals have found it necessary to appoint a visiting alienist—a step which I trust I may be pardoned for claiming has been completely justified, judging by the number of cases that have been successfully treated without the necessity for sending them on to special institutions.

TABLE I.—Return showing the number of Persons admitted, discharged, and remaining at the end of the year in the institutions under the control of the Lunacy Department during the year ended 31st December, 1915.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Remaining in Institutions on 31st December, 1914—						
In Hospitals for Insane and Receiving Houses ...	12	4	16	...	...	...
In Licensed Houses ... ..	...	1	1	...	...	...
				12	5	17
Admissions—						
Hospitals for Insane and Receiving Houses ...	41	34	75	...	...	...
Licensed Houses	5	10	15	...	...	...
				46	44	90
Total under care during the year ... ..	...	...	...	58	49	107
Discharged—						
Hospitals for Insane and Receiving Houses ...	34	24	58	...	...	...
Licensed Houses	4	8	12	...	...	...
Certified as Insane—						
Hospitals for Insane and Receiving Houses ...	8	8	16	...	...	...
Licensed Houses ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total discharged ... ..	...	...	...	46	40	86
Remaining in Institutions on 31st December, 1915—						
In Hospitals for Insane and Receiving Houses ...	11	6	17	...	...	...
Licensed Houses	1	3	4	...	...	...
Total remaining ... ..	...	...	...	12	9	21

TABLE II.—Return showing the form of Mental Disorder on admission of Persons received as Voluntary Boarders into institutions under the control of the Lunacy Department during the year ended 31st December, 1915.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Congenital Mental Defect	2	1	3
Primary Dementia, including adolescent conditions ...	5	4	9
Mania	2	2	4
Melancholia	12	18	30
Manic Depressive ... ..	...	1	1
Dementia other than Primary... ..	3	2	5
General Paralysis of the Insane ... ..	...	2	2
Confusional Conditions	1	2	3
Delusional and Obsessions	3	4	7
Neurastheuia ... ..	...	4	4
Hysteria ... ..	...	2	2
Hypochondriasis	2	...	2
Alcoholism and allied Psychoses	12	2	14
Epilepsy	4	...	4
Total	46	44	90

TABLE XX.—Showing the Total Receipts and Expenditure of the Lunacy Department during the Year 1915.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Collections by the Master-in-Lunacy for Maintenance of Patients at—			General Expenses, Salaries at Head Office, Fees to Official Visitors, Travelling Expenses, Postage and Telegrams, &c. ...	4,880	4 5
Yarra Bend ...	2,658	13 10	Maintenance at—		
Kew ...	6,549	2 2	Yarra Bend ...	24,917	1 2
Ararat ...	2,050	19 10	Kew ...	46,790	19 0
Beechworth ...	1,082	12 9	Ararat ...	28,002	15 2
Sunbury ...	3,028	16 5	Beechworth ...	24,391	6 7
Ballarat and Receiving House ...	1,805	7 3	Sunbury ...	36,078	0 11
Royal Park and Receiving House ...	2,372	3 6	Ballarat and Receiving House ...	27,480	4 2
Mont Park ...	874	0 5	Royal Park and Receiving House ...	15,433	12 8
Receiving Ward, Bendigo ...	28	3 0	Mont Park ...	15,045	1 11
Sales ...	3,130	8 1	Receiving Ward—Bendigo ...	431	0 0
Fines ...	14	10 9	Expenses in connexion with the Committal and Transport of Lunatics ...	1,368	12 0
Miscellaneous Collections ...	470	1 1	Expenses in connexion with Boarded-out Patients ...	2,602	14 4
Total ...	£24,064	19 1	Total ...	£227,421	12 4

TABLE XXI.—Showing the Total Cost of Maintenance against each Hospital, the Sums expended against each Vote, and the Amount of the General Expenses for the Year 1915.

	Average Number Resident.	Total Cost of Maintenance.		Salaries.		Fees to Official Visitors.		Allowance to Chaplains.		Provisions and Extra Articles.				
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.			
Yarra Bend ...	570	24,917	1 2	12,870	4 11	...	86	0 0	8,432	11 2				
Kew ...	1,230	46,790	19 0	23,127	1 6	...	96	0 0	15,730	6 1				
Ararat ...	655	28,002	15 2	13,194	2 11	...	147	0 0	10,411	12 0				
Beechworth ...	648	24,391	6 7	11,679	13 0	...	95	0 0	9,164	15 10				
Sunbury ...	960	36,078	0 11	15,759	8 4	...	88	0 0	14,357	12 5				
Ballarat and Receiving House ...	621 } 5 }	27,480	4 2	12,650	0 9	...	92	0 0	9,516	9 9				
Royal Park and Receiving House ...	112 } 51 }	15,433	12 8	10,012	7 4	...	34	0 0	3,306	19 5				
Mont Park ...	335	15,045	1 11	6,993	7 3	...	60	0 0	5,165	8 6				
General expenses ...	...	4,880	4 5	3,467	1 11	516 6 8	...	...	...	...
Total ...	5,187	223,019	6 0	109,753	7 11	516 6 8	698	0 0	76,085	15 2				
	Clothing, Bedding, and Material for Manufacture.		Stores—Purchase of Stock, Books, Amusements, &c.		Fuel, Light, and Water.		Medicines, Medical Comforts, Surgical Instruments, &c.		Stimulants—Wine, Spirits, and Beer.		Forge.		Incidentals Postage & Telegrams, Travelling Expenses.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Yarra Bend ...	1,198	8 2	567	3 9	1,159	14 1	200	18 10	92	16 3	106	10 2	202	13 10
Kew ...	2,641	5 1	1,185	18 11	3,012	11 4	324	5 10	130	12 9	301	0 7	241	16 11
Ararat ...	1,873	0 6	747	12 8	1,345	4 7	92	17 9	31	15 6	53	12 10	105	16 5
Beechworth ...	1,170	12 2	616	2 7	1,309	7 2	123	4 9	53	6 9	75	8 2	103	16 2
Sunbury ...	1,831	9 7	648	14 11	3,004	10 3	140	6 9	47	7 10	34	19 5	165	11 5
Ballarat and Receiving House ...	1,304	8 8	592	16 3	2,804	4 8	227	8 2	47	15 6	56	8 1	188	12 4
Royal Park and Receiving House ...	441	8 3	424	7 11	817	0 10	131	19 1	5	0 0	65	15 3	194	14 7
Mont Park ...	991	14 8	727	11 7	576	2 6	43	18 2	44	0 4	150	14 10	291	16 1
General expenses ...	...	...	32	10 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	864	5 7
Total ...	11,452	7 1	5,542	18 10	14,029	3 5	1,284	19 4	452	14 11	844	9 4	2,359	3 4

TABLE XXII.—Showing the Average Weekly Cost of Maintenance of Patients during the Year 1915.

—	Daily Average Number Resident.	Total Cost of Maintenance.			Collections for Maintenance, Sales, Fines, Fees, &c.			Salaries.			Allowance to Chaplains.			Provisions and Extra Articles.			
		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Yarra Bend ...	570	24,917	1	2	2,912	13	7	0	8	8	0	0	0	0	5	8	1
Kew ...	1,230	46,790	19	0	7,292	17	7	0	7	2	0	0	0	0	4	11	
Ararat ...	655	28,002	15	2	2,345	15	3	0	7	6	0	0	1	0	6	1	1
Beechworth ...	648	24,391	6	7	1,313	3	4	0	6	11	0	0	0	0	5	5	1
Sunbury ...	960	36,078	0	11	3,530	18	7	0	6	3	0	0	0	0	5	9	
Ballarat and Receiving House	621 } 5	27,480	4	2	2,246	10	5	0	7	9	0	0	1	0	5	10	
Royal Park and Receiving House	112 } 51	15,433	12	8	2,489	4	8	1	3	7	0	0	1	0	7	9	1
Mont Park ...	335	15,045	1	11	1,905	12	8	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	5	11	
Total ...	5,187	218,139	1	7	24,036	16	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General expenses	...	4,880	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

—	Clothing, Bedding, and Material for Manufacture.			Stores—Purchase of Stock, Books, Amusements, &c.			Fuel, Light, and Water.			Medicines and Medical Comforts, Surgical Instruments, &c.			Stimulants—Wines, Spirits and Beer.			Forage.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Yarra Bend ...	0	0	9	0	0	4	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kew ...	0	0	10	0	0	4	0	0	11	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ararat ...	0	1	1	0	0	5	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Beechworth ...	0	0	8	0	0	4	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sunbury ...	0	0	9	0	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ballarat and Receiving House	0	0	9	0	0	4	0	1	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Royal Park and Receiving House	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	11	0	0	4	...	...	0	0	2	
Mont Park ...	0	1	1	0	0	10	0	0	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Total ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
General expenses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

—	Incidentals, Postage and Telegrams and Travelling Expenses.			Total Weekly Cost of Maintenance per Patient.			Average Collections per Patient 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	1	0	16	9	0	1	11	0	14	10
Kew ...	0	0	1	0	14	7	0	2	3	0	12	4
Ararat ...	0	0	1	0	16	5	0	1	4	0	15	0
Beechworth ...	0	0	0	0	14	5	0	0	9	0	13	8
Sunbury ...	0	0	1	0	14	5	0	1	4	0	13	0
Ballarat and Receiving House	0	0	1	0	16	1	0	1	4	0	15	6
Royal Park and Receiving House	0	0	5	1	16	5	0	5	10	1	10	6
Mont Park ...	0	0	4	0	17	3	0	2	2	0	15	1
Total ...	...	...	...	0	16	2	0	1	9	0	14	4
General expenses	...	...	...	0	0	4	...	...	...	0	0	4

TABLE XXIII.—Return showing the Quantity and Value of Produce supplied by the Farms and Gardens at the various Hospitals for the Insane during the Year ended 31st December, 1915.

—	Eggs.	Meat, Poultry, &c.	Milk	Vegetables.	Fruit.	Green Food.
	doz.	lbs.	qts.	lbs.	lbs.	tons.
Yarra Bend	1,172	1,264	71,121	157,589	...	65
Kew	904	1,444	139,882	473,746	1,282	300
Ararat	282	330	54,364	110,148	504	130
Beechworth	784	1,663	58,478	177,784	24,532	124
Sunbury	109	654	144,340	247,531	6,122	140
Ballarat	138	1,478	78,785	259,929	462	160
Royal Park	511	490	40,376	61,713	...	25
Mont Park	50	62,049	52,056	86,168	...	110
Total Value	£ s. d. 211 4 7	£ s. d. 1,271 16 11	£ s. d. 8,848 3 2	£ s. d. 6,789 16 10	£ s. d. 206 13 9	£ s. d. 1,445 10 0

—	Hay.	Root Crops.	Ensilage.	Peas.	Lucerne	Firewood.	Hardwood.
	tons.	tons.	tons.	bush.	tons.	tons.	ft. sup.
Yarra Bend	17	...	...	...	...	34½	...
Kew	70	...	...	60	...	...	...
Ararat	122	...	40	...	...	...	...
Beechworth	194	...	42	40	...	60	500
Sunbury	180	...	...	27	...	...	...
Ballarat	140	...	180	...	...	...	...
Royal Park	30	10	20	...	...	...	...
Mont Park	300	10	...	40	5	...	...
Total Value	£ s. d. 4,616 0 0	£ 25	£ s. d. 332 0 0	£ s. d. 39 2 0	£ 15	£ s. d. 40 5 1	£ s. d. 3 5 0

Total Value—£23,843 17s. 4d.

COST OF MAINTENANCE.

There was an increase of £18,230 18s. 10d. in the total expenditure of the Department during the year 1915 over that of the previous year, the total expenditure being £227,421 12s. 4d. This amount includes expenses in connexion with the committal of patients, boarding out patients, maintenance of patients in the Lunacy Ward, Bendigo, and the salaries of the Head Office, inspection, travelling expenses, and postage.

The expenditure for the actual maintenance of patients in the Hospitals for the Insane shows an increase of £18,649 3s. 1d. The principal cause of this increase was on account of the very high contract prices for meat, butter, bread, and potatoes. The contract prices for these items from 1st July, 1915, showed increases from 50 to 75 per cent. There were small variations in some of the other items, but none of these call for special notice.

The farms and gardens were generally productive, but at Ararat, on account of the drought in the early part of the year, the crops were practically a failure.

The total value of produce supplied from the farms and gardens was £23,843 17s. 4d., and full particulars will be found on Table XXIII. of the Report.

The average weekly cost per patient was 16s. 2d. per week, and deducting from this the value of the collections for maintenance, &c., equivalent to 1s. 9½d. per week, a net weekly cost of 14s. 4½d. per week is arrived at, as against 13s. 2½d. the previous year.

The Revenue amounted to £24,064 19s. 1d., made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Fines	14	10	9
Sales of Government Stock ...	3,130	8	1
Miscellaneous Collections ...	470	1	1
Collections by the Master in Lunacy for maintenance of Patients ...	20,449	19	2
Total	24,064	19	1

The usual Tables No. XX., XXI. and XXII., giving details of expenditure, are attached.

H. SEATON LYNCH,

Chief Clerk and Accountant.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

Yarra Bend.—The Medical Superintendent reports that 39 males and 78 females were admitted during the year, bringing the total number resident on 31st December to 593 persons. There were 27 discharges, 56 deaths, and 5 escapes—all of whom were retaken. There was no use of seclusion, but restraint was necessary in the case of one female patient for surgical reasons. Two accidents occurred: an elderly woman sustained a fracture of the neck of the femur, and another sustained a Colles fracture, but no blame was attributable to the staff. No cases of infection arose beyond several of colitis which occurred on the male side and in rapid succession. Six attendants and ten nurses passed Departmental examinations. Generally speaking, good results were obtained on both the farm and garden, despite the conditions of drought during the early part of the year.

Kew.—221 males and 155 females, totalling 376, were received. The daily average number resident was 504 males and 405 females, total 909. On the books at the end of the year were the names of 1,092 patients. One-third of the admissions had been previously certified, and the Medical Superintendent in commenting on the hopeless character of the admissions points out how frequent and potent a casual factor is syphilis—no less than 15% being directly attributable to that disease. Hereditary influences were detected in 92 cases out of 337—which is approximately 27%—but Dr. Gamble believes that hereditary influences mean nothing more or less than congenital syphilis of varying severity. The deaths totalled 137, the mean age at death being 54 years. Included in this number were 53 cases of general paralysis. The discharges included 66 recoveries and 62 relieved. Many of the latter, in the opinion of the Medical Superintendent, can be classed as recoveries, as he points out that the question of real recovery is purely a matter of opinion. One serious accident occurred: A female patient died as a result of burns sustained by her clothes catching fire at a gas stove. No seclusion or restraint was made use of; indeed nothing in this way has been resorted to since October, 1911. There were a few cases of colitis.

Children's Department.—At the end of the year there were 175 males and 158 females, making a total of 333. The admissions numbered 20 males and 22 females, total 42. The mean age of those admitted was 11 years. The deaths were 7 males and 12 females, total 19. Seventy-five per cent. of these cases showed definite evidence *post mortem* of congenital syphilis. During the year a very limited epidemic of typhoid occurred. Dr. Lind carried out a systematic vaccination of all patients, which probably had the effect of preventing a more widely spread epidemic.

Ararat.—At the beginning of the year there were 383 males and 284 females, total 667, resident in the Hospital. At the end of the year the numbers were 368, 282, total 650. There were 25 direct admissions and 19 transfers from other institutions. There were 13 recoveries and 2 discharges relieved. Deaths occurred in 21 males

and 15 females, total 36, the mean average age of death being 62. The total number under care during the year was 723. One male patient in the Criminal Ward succeeded in committing suicide by strangulation, tearing a strip from his blanket during the night.

Seclusion was not necessary but 3 patients needed restraint by means of a camisole for a total duration of 65 hours. Two of these patients were violent cases in the Criminal Ward. Twelve attendants and nurses passed various nursing examinations. The Medical Superintendent comments on the very unsatisfactory water service which in this year of drought has caused the very greatest inconvenience. Work on the farm and in the garden has necessarily suffered, and the last two years may truly be said to have been very harassing for the various officials at Ararat.

Beechworth.—During the year there were 13 direct admissions and 20 transfers from other institutions. Twelve were discharged recovered and one relieved. Remaining at the end of the year were 356 males and 269 females, making a total of 625. The number of deaths was the largest on record for Beechworth—36 males and 28 females, totalling 64, died during the year. The mean age at death was as high as 66 years. Seclusion was necessary in two female cases, and restraint in four cases—two males requiring protracted restraint to prevent self-mutilation.

A few cases of colitis occurred, and an outbreak of infective conjunctivitis of such severity that it was necessary to provide isolation. A hot water radiator system for heating the wards and corridors has been successfully installed on the female side, and Dr. Catarinich, who has replaced Dr. Hollow, strongly recommends the extension of this system to the male side also.

During part of the year an abnormal dry season caused considerable loss on both farm and garden as a result of the inadequate water supply received from the shire water authority.

Sunbury.—The Medical Superintendent reports that there were 118 direct admissions and 33 transfers from other institutions. Fifty-three males and 36 females, total 89, died during the year, the mean age at death being 55.26 years.

At the end of the year there were remaining 452 males, 506 females, total 958.

Fifty patients were discharged as recovered, *i.e.*, a percentage recovery of 42.37.

No restraint nor seclusion was necessary, but 26 cases of colitis and one case of typhoid occurred.

There were four casualties. Death ensued in one case, in which wiring of a broken patella subsequently set up septicæmia. The operation was performed at St. Vincent's Hospital, but the patient subsequently died in the Sunbury Hospital.

One broken rib was found on *post-mortem* examination, but there was no history or symptoms to account for the same; it had nothing to do with the death of the patient.

In four cases bed-sores occurred, two being cases of general paralysis. Air-ing court shelters were constructed on the hill wards. Dr. Lethbridge now has the assistance of Dr. Naylor, but the institution is without a third medical officer.

Ballarat.—At the end of the year there were in residence 224 males and 396 females, total 620. Of these 162 are epileptics. During the year 30 males and 21 females were new admissions, and 4 males and 11 females re-admissions.

Out of the total of 66, 43 were sent on from the Ballarat Receiving House.

In no less than 16 cases senile decay was the casual factor. Patients ranging up to 88 years of age were admitted, and of these 16 cases no less than 9 died shortly after admission. The deaths numbered 22 males and 29 females, total 49; *post mortems* were obtained in only 39 cases.

Seclusion totalled 112 hours, and restraint was necessary in 6 cases—principally for epileptic furor.

The surface reticulation of the institution was extended, and the new kitchen and laundry buildings were commenced.

Royal Park Hospital for the Insane.—During the year 57 males and 44 females, total 101, were admitted. Nineteen of these cases were recruits.

Discharges included 38 recoveries.

There were 3 deaths, but one occurred whilst the patient was out on probation

The Medical Superintendent acknowledges the valuable services given by Dr. J. V. McCreery in the electrical treatment department, and regrets that the latter is resigning his position. Dr. Callander was relieved to undertake war duties, and the Matron (Miss Cumming), who has been in charge of the institution practically from its inception, resigned.

Mont Park.—At the end of the year there were in residence 211 males, 154 females, total 365. There were 9 direct admissions and 65 transfers from other institutions. Seven patients were discharged recovered, and 3 patients died. No accident occurred; neither was restraint nor seclusion necessary.

The health of the patients generally was excellent, and no epidemic disorder broke out.

A new ward for adult male imbeciles was opened.

Dr. Hollow took charge of the institution in succession to Dr. Woinarski, whose sudden death is much to be regretted. Good results have been obtained from both farm and garden, and a plant nursery has provided excellent work for the patients; £643 worth of young plants has been sent to other institutions, and very admirable work has been accomplished in laying out the grounds of this extensive property.

RECEIVING HOUSES AND WARDS.

TABLE I.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year ended 31st December, 1915.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
In the Institutions, 1st January, 1915	27	23	50	...	...	...
Total number on books, 1st January, 1915	...	...	...	27	23	50
Cases admitted—						
First admissions	382	304	686	..	..	...
Not first admissions	63	67	130	...	...	...
Escaped patients retaken	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total cases admitted during the year	...	...	...	445	371	816
Total cases under care during the year	...	...	...	472	394	866
Cases discharged—						
Recovered	135	96	231	...	...	...
Relieved	9	11	20	...	...	...
Not improved	3	...	3	...	...	...
Transferred from the Institutions to Hospitals for the						
Insane	290	250	540	...	..	...
Escaped	...	...	...	...	...	...
Died	7	8	14	...	...	...
Total cases discharged and died during the year	...	...	...	413	365	808
Remaining in the Institutions, 31st December, 1915	29	29	58	...	...	...
Total number on books, 31st December, 1915	...	...	..	29	29	58
Average number resident during the year						
Persons under care during the year	...	...	...	30	28	58
Persons admitted	...	...	..	453	377	830
Persons recovered	...	...	...	426	354	780
	...	...	...	130	95	225

TABLE II.—Showing the Previous Attacks among Persons Admitted during the Year 1915.

Number of Previous Attacks.	Persons.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.
Have had one attack	58	56	114
Have had two attacks	7	10	17
Have had three attacks .. .. .	..	1	1
Have had four attacks	1	..	1
Have had six attacks .. .. .	..	1	1

TABLE III.—Showing the Probable Causes of Insanity in the Patients Admitted during the Year 1915.

Causes of Insanity.	Number of Instances in which each Cause was Assigned.											
	Admissions {									No. of Cases—		
										445 Males, 371 Females, 816 Total.		
	As Predisposing Cause.			As Exciting Cause.			As Predisposing or Exciting (where these could not be distinguished).			Total.		
Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
MORAL.												
Domestic Trouble (including loss of relatives and friends) .. .. .	..	..	..	3	8	11	1	..	1	4	8	12
Adverse Circumstances (including business anxieties and pecuniary difficulties) ..	1	..	1	4	4	8	..	..	..	5	4	9
Mental Anxiety and Worry (not included under the above two heads), and Overwork ..	..	..	..	11	15	26	..	4	4	11	19	30
Religious Excitement .. .. .	..	..	..	2	3	5	..	..	..	2	3	5
Love Affairs (including seduction) .. ..	..	..	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	2	2	4
Fright and Nervous Shock .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	1	1	..	4	4
PHYSICAL.												
Intemperance in Drink	2	..	2	70	27	97	12	1	13	84	28	112
Intemperance (sexual) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Veneral Diseases	2	..	2	40	9	49	1	..	1	43	9	52
Self-abuse (sexual)	4	1	5	9	1	10	..	..	..	13	2	15
Over Exertion .. .. .	..	..	..	7	9	16	..	..	..	7	9	16
Sunstroke .. .. .	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Accident or Injury	1	..	1	8	2	10	1	..	1	10	2	12
Pregnacy .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Parturition and the Puerperal state ..	..	..	..	..	13	13	..	1	1	..	14	14
Lactation .. .. .	..	1	1	..	4	4	..	..	..	..	5	5
Uterine and Ovarian Disorders .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puberty .. .. .	..	..	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	2	2	4
Change of Life .. .. .	..	7	7	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	9	9
Fevers .. .. .	..	..	..	2	..	2	..	..	..	2	..	2
Privation and Starvation	1	..	1	3	5	8	3	..	3	7	5	12
Old Age	43	34	77	..	..	..	1	1	2	44	35	79
Other Bodily Diseases or Disorders ..	1	..	1	18	12	30	2	2	4	21	14	35
Previous Attacks	20	39	59	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	39	59
Hereditary Influences ascertained (direct and collateral)	15	56	71	..	..	..	..	1	1	15	57	72
Congenital Defect ascertained	14	15	29	3	..	3	..	1	1	17	16	33
Other ascertained causes .. .. .	..	..	..	6	5	11	..	1	1	6	6	12
Unknown .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	114	91	205	114	91	205
Epilepsy .. .. .	..	..	..	29	13	42	..	..	..	29	13	42
Total	104	153	257	220	140	360	135	104	239	459	397	856
Deduct for combined causes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	26	40
Total Admissions .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	445	371	816

TABLE IV.—Showing the Form of Mental Disorder on admission in the Admissions, Recoveries, and Deaths for the year 1915, and the Form of Mental Disorder of the Patients remaining on Books on 31st December, 1915.

Form of Mental Disorder.	Admissions.			Recoveries.			Deaths.			Remaining on Books.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
I. Congenital or infantile mental deficiency (idiocy or imbecility) occurring as early in life as it can be observed—	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Intellectual—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(a) With epilepsy	3	1	4	1	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	1
(b) Without epilepsy	15	13	28	3	1	4	..	1	1	..	..	..
2. Moral .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
II. Insanity occurring later in life—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1. Insanity with epilepsy	30	13	43	10	3	13	..	..	..	..	..	..
2. General paralysis of the insano	46	7	53	2	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	1
3. Insanity of the grosser brain lesions	4	1	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	2
4. Acute delirium (acute delirious mania)	10	3	13	8	1	9	..	2	2	1	..	1
5. Confusional insanity	23	20	43	9	11	20	..	1	1	1	..	1
6. Stupor	2	2	4	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	..	..
7. Primary dementia	61	49	110	14	9	23	..	..	..	6	3	9
8. Mania—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Simple	2	1	3	2	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	1
(b) Recent	26	48	74	14	12	26	..	1	1	1	7	8
(c) Chronic	5	5	10	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
(d) Recurrent	17	23	40	8	7	15	..	..	..	1	2	3
9. Melancholia—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Recent	42	68	110	15	29	44	1	..	1	8	8	16
(b) Chronic	5	4	9	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Recurrent	12	16	28	1	2	3	2	..	2	1	..	1
10. Alternating insanity	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Delusional insanity—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Systematized	36	27	63	4	6	10	..	..	..	..	4	4
(b) Non-systematized	21	15	36	10	8	18	..	..	..	3	1	4
12. Volitional Insanity—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Impulse .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(b) Obsession .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(c) Doubt .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Coreic Insanity	2	1	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
14. Dementia—	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
(a) Alcoholic	2	1	3	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
(b) Senile	42	40	82	7	3	10	2	2	4	1	3	4
(c) Secondary or terminal	5	1	6	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholic Psychoses	30	9	39	17	1	18	1	..	1	1	..	1
Nourasthenia .. ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Not insane	3	..	3	3	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	445	371	816	135	96	231	6	8	14	29	29	58

RECEIVING HOUSES.

Royal Park.—Dr. Godfrey reports that the highest number so far were received during 1915. The admissions totalled 718, but of these 56 were Voluntary Boarders. Of the other admissions, 416 were by private request, 186 came under the Justices' orders, and 60 were admitted direct from Public Hospitals.

The recoveries amounted to 173, *i.e.*, 26 per cent., but this does not include 43 patients—Voluntary Boarders—who were also discharged recovered.

No casualties nor bedsores occurred, and no restraint nor seclusion was necessary. Fourteen males and 4 females died. During the year this institution was turned into a Military Mental Hospital. In the first place the female side was taken over, and 6 soldiers were admitted up to the end of the year. The ward is staffed by our female nurses, with Matron A. Holmes in charge.

Ballarat.—Eighty-three cases were admitted, of whom 38 males and 24 females were first cases; 22 recovered, and 43 were transferred to other institutions.

Dr. Barker reports that far too many senile cases were sent to this institution. Two cases of death occurred, one female being moribund on admission.

Neither restraint nor seclusion was necessary, nor were there any accidents.

PATHOLOGICAL LABORATORY.

ROYAL PARK,

1st January, 1916.

SIR,

I beg to submit a report on the pathological work for the year 1915.

During this year the following *post-mortems* were made:—Kew, 134 ; Yarra Bend, 52 ; Royal Park, 8 ; Mont Park, 3 ; private licensed houses, 6 ; total, 203.

Routine work has continued satisfactorily in the laboratories at Kew and Royal Park in spite of the inconvenience caused by the inability to obtain the usual class of drugs, &c., employed in this kind of work. The monopoly which enemy countries enjoy in the supply of scientific gear, &c., to the whole world has been driven home to the purchasers of such articles during this year. Our search for substitutes has resulted in the discovery that eucalyptus oil is a good reagent for clearing brain sections in place of oil of thyme, and a good substitute for xylol in paraffin embedding. We have also prepared a polychrome methylene blue stain which is almost, if not quite, as serviceable as the stain hitherto imported from Grubler, of Leipsig.

The records of the Idiot Cottages at Kew show endemic typhoid for years past. At the beginning of this summer it again broke out on the female side, and up till date three patients have died from it. As the house flies this summer constitute a plague, we are endeavoring to limit the spread of infection by vaccination with a typhoid vaccine which we have prepared at the laboratories at Royal Park and Kew. Unfortunately the disease has had a good start, but we hope to limit it to the already infected.

Syphilis still appears in *post mortem* examinations to be the close associate of insanity. In the support of the theory that we have a large number of cases of syphilis incognita in our community who are responsible for our insane population, I wish to cite the following instance:—Mrs. X. was received at Kew recently, and the husband was genuinely surprised at the diagnosis of general paralysis, because the family were all healthy, and he was convinced that he had never acquired syphilis. He consulted his family doctor, who was also an old friend, and by arrangement with the superintendent of Kew this doctor visited the wife, verified the diagnosis, and took another sample of blood, which gave a positive Wassermann result. On submitting the blood of the children to the same test several were returned as positive Wassermann. These cases of syphilis incognita are, in my opinion, the possessors of a vulnerability of the nerve tissue, which renders them susceptible to stress. One has only to read the synopsis of the mental condition of the 203 persons dying insane during the year 1915 to appreciate the enormous expenditure the State of Victoria has to incur through syphilis.

General paralysis, 59.	Senile (abiotrophic) dementia, 47.
Melancholia, 15.	Arteriopathic dementia, 8.
Mania, 7.	Dementia precox, 6.
Confusional states, 9.	Huntington's chorea, 1.
Delusional insanity, 9.	Sequential dementia, 10.
Epilepsy, 6.	Alcoholic dementia, 1.
Congenital insanity, 21.	Korssakow's syndrome, 4.

It will be seen that general paralysis, or quarternary syphilis, represents about 28½ per cent. of the deaths, and that congenital insanity, which is mainly due to syphilis, is responsible for a little over 10 per cent. Of the remaining varieties of insanities, a large number show *post-mortem* evidence of syphilis. The waste of money alone caused through this disease justifies the most energetic efforts in treating it as we do small-pox.

A subject which has led to considerable discussion is the cause of death as submitted by the pathologist to the coroner. A patient dying from pneumonia and general paralysis is claimed by the medical staff as a death from general paralysis for statistical purposes. This is correct from the alienist's point of view, but the reason of the coronial inquiry is to ascertain the reason why that case of general

paralysis died. According to Table 14, the cause of death must be either general paralysis or pneumonia, as this table does not permit the inclusion of both primary and secondary causes of death as in civil practice certificates of death. There are a few instances in which the death is a true brain death, but the majority of the deaths are due to disease in the splanchnics. The cause of death is sometimes cynically ascribed to disease of the heart, lungs, kidneys, liver, bowels, brain and other organs, because the pathologist so frequently finds advanced disease in several organs at autopsy. This plurality of causes of death is due to the fact that the majority of patients who die in the hospitals for insane have been dying as bed-ridden patients, and, previous to that, as chair-ridden cases. Their final dissolution is delayed until the weakening of one organ embarrasses the other organ, and death ensues. The *post-mortem* changes are far in advance of what one finds in the same.

The examination of microscopical sections does not disclose pathognomonic changes in the various types of insanity as it does in other diseases like pneumonia, malaria, cancer, &c. General paralysis, when well advanced, shows certain constant changes under the microscope, but in the other insanities the changes described by various authorities and investigators are practically dependent on the chronicity of the mental disease. Chromatolysis and achromatolysis of the neuron, gliosis, destruction of fibres, &c., may be present in an area of a section of one kind of insanity, and absent in the corresponding area of a section taken from another case of the same kind of insanity. After a long time spent in the examination of microscopical sections, and studying the histories of the cases in conjunction with the *post-mortem* changes, I have accepted the following as the pathology of insanity:— In the causation of insanity there are two factors. The first, which is determined before birth, depends on our parentage, and is the vulnerability of the neuron; the second is stress, or, as Mott calls them, "Nature and Nurture." In the nerve degenerations in insanity there are two types. The first is where the neuron degenerates primarily, and the glial changes are secondary; the second is where the neuron decays owing to changes in the blood supply brought about by sclerosis, atheroma, gliosis, &c. In the primary, a toxin circulating in the blood, lack of nourishment as in starvation and insufficient feeding, deprivation of oxygen as in anæmic states, produces sickness, or, perhaps, the death of the cell and its fibres, interfering with the normal functioning of the mind. In the secondary type, the interference in the blood supply starves the neuron, and the cell is also poisoned by its waste products, which it cannot get rid of. The toxin may exert a selective action as in convulsive states, or it may follow the custom of exerting its influence on the most highly developed cells, which represent the higher sentiments of religion, honesty, equity, self-control, thus influencing the conduct of the individual. Worry, grief, &c., act as the stress-producing indigestion, constipation, and toxins which are absorbed from the bowel. If these causes are allowed to act long enough on the neurons, permanent destruction is caused, and dementia ensues. If the patient is treated early, or the offending causes removed, then the changes in the neuron may not go past chromatolysis, which can recover. The prognosis depends on the vulnerability of the neuron affected, and the nature of the causative agent. In the sanguine temperament, which is the nearest to eucrazy, these toxins, &c., do not produce a tithe of the effect that they do on the neuropath. Some investigators have tried to map out areas of the brain the stimulation of which produces depression or exaltation. That this is unnecessary to explain the conditions of mania or melancholia is apparent when we compare the actions of well known toxins, *e.g.*, the exaltation of alcohol, the fussy delirium of atropine poisoning, the depression of the influenza toxin, the mania of Bright's disease, the irritability of gout, the euphoria of some fatal septic conditions, and the confusional suspicion that is associated with tubercular insanity. It is thus seen that, given a vulnerable nerve tissue, *i.e.*, Heredity, we can get an upsetting of the normal functioning of that brain by any causes which interfere with the nutrition of the nerve cells. To show to what extent the chances of intoxication can take place in the insane by the kidneys alone, I submit to you the result of the examination of the urines of 459 consecutive cases admitted to Kew:—

Albumin in 103.

Reduction of Fehlings, 12.

S.G. above 1,015, and below 1,025, 173.

This is a large proportion of abnormal specific gravities, and may indicate more than a natural result of the excitement or depression of the individual.

In 439 out of 516 cases *post-mortem*, there were kidney changes, mostly of a fibrotic nature.

Practically all the *post-mortems* made on the insane give indication of chronic fibroid change in some one part or the whole. This is in many cases undoubtedly due to syphilis, as the above figures show.

For the pathologist to be of any value to the clinician he must point out the indications for treatment of the conditions he has examined. Assuming the above pathology to be correct, the treatment is to correct the agent damaging the nerve cells, whether it be anæmia, copræmia, toxæmia, bacteræmia, or kidney insufficiency. It will take a long time before any result is obtained, because the affected nerve cells must first of all be relieved of the presence of the unfavorable influences before they can begin to rebuild themselves with the aid of a nuclear ferment out of the lipoid substances contained in the cytoplasm. The length of time required for this accounts for the duration of even the very shortest of mental diseases. Some cases are obviously hopeless from the nature of the causative agent at work.

In the pathology of congenital insanity we can distinguish the idiot from the imbecile. In the former the mental and physical conditions are progressively decaying, in addition to anatomical abnormalities of the brain. On the other hand, the imbecile suffers from altered structural pattern in his brain, an attempt at returning to an inferior type of brain, with alteration in the make-up of the cortical layers to the intellectual disadvantage of the individual. There is no active brain disease present, the mental symptoms being purely those of intellectual deficiency associated with the weak control of primitive instincts.

I wish to record my thanks to the superintendents and medical officers for their co-operation in investigating cases of interest.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. T. LIND,
Pathologist.

To the Inspector-General,
Victorian Lunacy Department.

13486-D

LICENSED HOUSES.

Table showing the Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during 1915, and the number remaining on 31st December, 1915.

Resident in Licensed Houses, 1st January, 1915.		M.	F.	Total	Discharged Recovered.		M.	F.	Total	Discharged not Improved.		M.	F.	Total	Died.		M.	F.	Total	Escaped.		M.	F.	Total	Transferred from Hospitals for Insane 1915		M.	F.	Total
Resident in Licensed Houses, 1st January, 1915.					Total cases under care during the year 1915					Discharged Recovered.					Died.					Escaped.					Transferred from Hospitals for Insane 1915				
Sunnyside	8	6	14	Sunnyside ..		2	1	3	Sunnyside ..		1	..	1	Mt. Ida	Sunnyside	Sunnyside
Mt. Ida	1	10	11	Mt. Ida ..		1	4	5	Mt. Ida	Merton	Merton	Mt. Ida
Merton	19	19	Merton	1	1	Merton	Glen Holme	Glen Holme	Merton
Glen Holme	22	22	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts
The Tofts	9	9	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses.					Discharged Relieved.					Discharged not Improved.					Escaped.					Transferred from Hospitals for Insane 1915					Total				
Sunnyside	3	..	3	Sunnyside	Sunnyside	Mt. Ida	Sunnyside	Sunnyside
Mt. Ida	5	5	Mt. Ida	Mt. Ida	Merton	Merton	Merton
Merton	11	11	Merton	Merton	Glen Holme	Glen Holme	Glen Holme
Cloverdale	1	1	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts
Glen Holme	3	3	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
The Tofts	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
Total number on Books of Licensed Houses, 1st January, 1915					Discharged (Whilst on Leave)					Discharged not Improved.					Escaped.					Transferred from Hospitals for Insane 1915					Total				
Received—					Sunnyside (Whilst on Leave)					Discharged not Improved.					Escaped.					Transferred from Hospitals for Insane 1915					Total				
First Admissions	M. F. T.	7	33	40	Sunnyside	Sunnyside	Mt. Ida	Sunnyside	Sunnyside
Not First Admissions	..	1	3	4	Mt. Ida	Mt. Ida	Merton	Merton	Merton
Escapes Retaken	Glen Holme	Glen Holme	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts
Transferred from the Hospitals for the Insane	..	2	1	3	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
Total	..	10	37	47	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
Sunnyside	6	2	8	Sunnyside	Sunnyside	Mt. Ida	Mt. Ida	Mt. Ida
Mt. Ida	2	13	15	Mt. Ida	Mt. Ida	Merton	Merton	Merton
Merton	11	11	Merton	Merton	Glen Holme	Glen Holme	Glen Holme
Glen Holme	10	10	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts	The Tofts
The Tofts	Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
Transferred from Hospitals for Insane 1915					Total					Total					Total					Total					Total				
Total cases under care during the year 1915					Total					Total					Total					Total					Total				
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IN GENERAL.

It is hardly necessary to lay much stress on the difficulties that have been experienced in the administration of the Department generally, and the various institutions individually, during the past year. We have lost many of our staff, and only a portion of the vacancies caused by our officers going to the war has been filled up by temporary employees. The difficulty has been more especially felt with regard to the medical staff, and although we have been able to obtain some temporary assistance, we are still practically three medical officers short. At Ararat, Dr. Philpott for some time was single-handed. At Kew we have lost the services of the Senior Assistant Medical Officer, and Dr. Gamble is conducting the heavy work of that institution with a Junior Medical Officer and a temporary assistant. At Sunbury we have always been one medical officer short, and frequently Dr. Lethbridge and Dr. Naylor have been left to carry on the work without any assistance. At Ararat, too, the condition of drought which existed at the beginning of 1915 has caused a great deal of extra work to fall on the shoulders of the Medical Superintendent.

With regard to the question of accommodation: As we have surrendered the Receiving House at Royal Park and the new Laundry Block at Mont Park to the Military Authorities, we have necessarily been somewhat cramped for room, and a certain amount of overcrowding has become inevitable. This has been met by reopening certain of the old wards at Yarra Bend which were closed a year ago.

The obtaining of supplies for our Department has been both costly and difficult. Not only have many drugs, linen and cotton goods, serges and flannels gone up very materially in price, but they have also been very difficult to obtain, even at the enhanced cost. However, we have much to be thankful for in that practically without exception the whole staff have endeavoured to minimize our difficulties in a manner deserving of the highest praise.

The principal public works undertaken during the year has been the internal sewerage of the main institution at Kew. This has been a difficult work to accomplish, and throws additional strain on the administration of such an institution. One has the unpleasant feeling that it is more than likely that we shall suffer from an epidemic of typhoid as a result of the disturbance of the soil—germ-laden from past bad hygienic conditions.

At Mont Park we opened a special block, mostly for lads who have outgrown the Idiot Asylum at Kew. Here we have excellent accommodation for between forty and fifty patients of this class, whom we shall endeavour to occupy on the farm and in the special gardens at Mont Park.

At Ballarat the new kitchen, laundry, and boiler-house is nearing completion.

With regard to the work still to be undertaken, there are the following important items:—

The continuation of the sewerage of the Kew main institution and the Idiot Cottages, together with the reconstruction of the latter, beginning with a reconstructed kitchen and a new dining-hall. A hospital ward for male bedridden cases is extremely desirable at Kew, as the present hospital ward, wherein many cases of general paralysis have to be nursed until death releases them, is extremely unsuitable. I should also like to ask for a cottage for the head attendant at this institution.

At Sunbury we are endeavouring to complete the reconstruction of the "Hill" wards. A new hot-water scheme for the whole of the front block is desirable.

At Ballarat we should continue the scheme which we have embarked on for the provision of new administrative offices. A steam supply to the female side is a work which we should certainly undertake before the next winter. In this institution, also, a ward for the more troublesome and excited male patients is a desideratum.

Nurses' homes at Kew, Sunbury, Royal Park, and Mont Park are essential adjuncts to any hospital for the insane, and at the latter institution we also require to provide at an early date workshops and a coal store, in addition to the work which is being executed primarily for the benefit of the Defence Department.

At such a time as this, one is certain to be told that economy is imperatively necessary. That this is so there is no doubt, but economy will not be secured by institutional inefficiency, and none of the additions and improvements herein mentioned can by any stretch of imagination be considered unnecessary or extravagant.

THE WAR INFLUENCE.

The pessimistic view that the outbreak of this appalling catastrophe will largely influence our lunacy statistics has not proved correct so far, since Australia—although bearing its due burden—is so far from the actual seat of war, and is so materially prosperous, that the actual stress and strain is hardly realised by the majority of its people.

Although many of our young men have broken down under the process of being made soldiers, and it is certain that actual warfare, with its extraordinary violence and terrifying experiences, will cause mental breakdown in even the strongest, yet the number so far received from the front has been much less than one would have expected. What the later results may be it is impossible to forecast, but one cannot help the gloomy foreboding that general paralysis may be increased at a later date as the result of war strain acting on a nervous system already affected by the virus of syphilis. Where other malign influences are at work also, *e.g.*, the abuse of alcohol, it appears to most alienists that the result will be serious in the extreme. So far, cases of shell shock, neurasthenia, and hysteria appear to predominate over cases of actual insanity, and even in the majority of cases we have received there seems to have been some pre-existing psychosis or inherited tendency contributing to the breakdown. During 1915, 40 men from the camps and military hospitals were received into the Hospitals for the Insane, whereas only 6 overseas men were received during the same period. These are not figures from which one can draw any very definite comparison or inference, as unquestionably many of these men would have been rejected for enlistment by an alienist supplied with all the facts of their career and family history; still, they are sufficient to indicate what is inevitable with the prolongation of the war, it being remembered, of course, that comparatively few of our soldiers had returned from Gallipoli by the end of the year.

Provision has had to be made for the reception of these military cases, and it was decided that "prior to embarkation" cases should, after consultation with the Defence Department medical authorities, be dealt with by the ordinary process of certification and that overseas men should be dealt with under the provisions of the Special War Mental Treatment Act, which was passed towards the end of the year. For the latter purpose it was necessary to set aside special accommodation for the treatment of these latter cases, and this was done by proclaiming, in the first place, one-half of the Receiving House at Royal Park as a Mental Military Hospital. The Inspector-General of the Insane was appointed O.C. of this hospital with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and Dr. C. G. Godfrey was appointed Medical Officer with the rank of Major. The Inspector-General acts as Consultant Alienist to the Military Hospitals in the 3rd (Victorian) District, and sees practically every mental or suspected case in the base hospitals, and recommends appropriate treatment and procedure in every case. The Royal Park Military Mental Hospital is staffed by nurses of the Lunacy Department, Matron A. Holmes having been appointed as sister-in-charge. As the need for additional accommodation grows, the remaining half of the Receiving House will be made available for this work, and it is hoped that the staff employed will receive recognition at the hands of the military authorities. The Red Cross Society has been very generous in supplying extras, comforts, and amusements for the patients, and this help has been most acceptable.

In June last, as a result of a request from the Defence Department as to whether this Department could assist with hospital accommodation, the new block which was just completed at Mont Park for 100 female patients working in the laundry, was handed over, and was utilized by the Defence Department as an auxiliary or convalescent military hospital. The ward is beautifully situated, and is well separated from the rest of the asylum buildings, so that it is quite suitable for

the purposes to which it has been put. Electric light is supplied from our power-station and the asylum does the washing of clothes for the ward, besides supplying milk and vegetables at cost price. As no rent is being charged for this ward the loan may be taken as the special contribution of this Department to the care of our sick and wounded soldiers, apart from Patriotic and Red Cross contributions and work—the individual gifts of the members of our staff. This ward is known as the 14th Auxiliary Hospital of the 3rd Military District, and contiguous to it the Military Authorities have established a light duties camp on a block of the Mont Park land of approximately 100 acres, and in this matter, also, this Department has done what it can to help. A site for a camp for early cases of consumption is also being granted to the Defence Department on the eastern slope of the Sugarloaf Hill—which is the north-east portion of the Mont Park Estate. Finally, an agreement has been come to whereby the large block, which is being built to replace Yarra Bend, is to be made available for the Defence Department for military hospital purposes, should such be necessary.

This building is practically a self-contained institution, consisting of an administrative portion and 12 pavilion wards arranged enéchelon, six wards being on each side of the central administrative block. These wards are designed for 750 patients, but they are capable of accommodating considerably more by using certain of the day-rooms as dormitories. The building is principally two-storied, and contiguous wards communicate with one another; a wide verandah on the ground floor also serves as a means of getting from one end of the building to the other. As this building, when relinquished by the Military, will revert to its intended use, the country will be saved a very considerable amount of money which otherwise it may have to provide in the way of additional hospital and convalescent accommodation for our soldiers, and which would subsequently be comparatively useless for any other purpose than that for which it was originally contrived.

The above may be considered the Department's contribution to War work, but individual members have subscribed handsomely to the various funds. Up to the end of the year contributions amounting to almost £1,800 has been made to the State Service Patriotic Fund, and contributions in money and kind to the value of over £500 has been sent to the Red Cross Society. Fifty nurses volunteered for service in the Base Military Hospitals in Victoria, but were not accepted; but the most valuable assistance given by this Department has been the enlistment of 100 officials, whose names appear in the attached list.

MEMBERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT WHO HAVE JOINED
THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.

FOR SERVICE ABROAD.

Ethel T. Richardson	Thomas C. Hildebrand	Thomas Walsh
Jane F. Tyers	William S. Young	Robert F. McCrickard
Leslie P. F. Beckmann	Daniel Courtney	James Foster
John P. Parsons	Richard J. Semmens	Richard W. Cauny
Thomas Geddes	William J. Anderson	John H. Jones
Dr. John K. Adey	Alfred J. J. Turner	Percy Tibbles
Charles L. M. Stewart	Percival J. Stephens	Richard W. White
Frederick V. Trickey	Eric G. Hogarth	R. C. Connell
William Crawford	William Beirne	J. M. Whyte
George Harris	Herbert W. Lansdell	Horace H. Lee
Thomas E. Foley	Henry J. Martin	Ralph J. Emmett
Robert S. Gregor	Charles H. Allchin	William P. Laidler
Harry Richards	William A. Horsfield	Leonard R. Jerram
John Hingeley	Frederick W. Stewart	Frederick W. Bastian
George E. Latimer	Albert E. Kennard	James A. Mitchell
Augustus J. V. Peverill	Henry St. J. Skinner	Jack Anderson
John F. Dromgoole	Ezekiel J. Smiley	Dr. Patrick Shaw
William I. Usher	Frank Prowse	Robert G. Ford
William J. Benwell	James Kilmartin	Richard F. J. Warren
John C. Davis	Augustus T. M. Mahony	Thomas J. Northill
David A. Wallace	William J. Phillips	Francis C. Mallon
William R. McCartney	John F. Deacon	William H. Lynch
Ernest E. Clark	George P. Grendon	William A. Ackeroyd
William L. Brewster	Joseph Rhodes	Michael J. Dowling
Harry S. Angel	Edward N. Lowry	Henry G. Tait
Thomas Egan	Harry Mason	Archibald C. Macmillan
Charles R. Roper	Alexander L. Dawson	Reginald A. Wicks
Denis A. Banks	Harold J. Wicks	George Maloney
Robert D. Desmond	Thomas Myers	George McKenzie
Joseph Stapleton	Ernest E. McDuff	Hugh McKinnon
Frederick M. Billiet	James M. Fogarty	Henry Kelly
Leslie G. Cook	James P. Fogarty	William B. Nicholas

OFFICERS WHO ARE PERFORMING MILITARY DUTIES IN VICTORIA.

Dr. W. Ernest Jones	Dr. John Steell	Dr. Robert S. Callander
Dr. Clarence G. Godfrey	Dr. Henry Rogerson	