

1935.

VICTORIA.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE
(DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE)

REPORT

OF THE

INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF THE INSANE
(DIRECTOR OF MENTAL HYGIENE)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER,
1933.

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT PURSUANT TO ACT 19 GEO. V.
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REPORT.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT,
 Inspector-General's Office,
 Old Treasury Buildings, Spring-street,
 Melbourne, C.I.

To the Honorable the Chief Secretary.

25th September, 1934.

SIR,—

I have the honour to present to Parliament the Annual Report of the Lunacy Department for the year 1933, together with the usual statistical returns for that year and with details of expenditure for the Financial Year ending 30th June, 1934.

There has been a slight increase in the total number of the registered insane during the year under review, but it is not appreciably out of proportion to the population of the State. In the State Mental Hospitals there are 5,910, whilst 771 are on Trial Leave therefrom and 131 cases Boarded Out. Sixty-eight (68) cases are in Private Licensed Houses and 19 on leave, bringing the total number of certified insane up to 6,899. At the end of the year there were 215 Military Mental cases known to the Department, and in various institutions there were 123 Voluntary Boarders.

The critical fact of these figures is that there were 61 more patients to be accommodated in our State Hospitals than was the case at the end of 1932, the daily average number resident being 5,888, as against 5,845. This does not take into account the Voluntary Boarders and the patients under observation in the Receiving Houses and Wards, which probably means a further 200 beds in occupation each day throughout the year.

With regard to admissions, these were rather more numerous, 848 being received into State Hospitals and 931 into Receiving Houses and Wards. Discharges totalled 572 and there were 479 deaths, both figures being slightly in excess of those in previous years.

The number of Voluntary Boarder admissions materially increased, there being 269 of such into State Institutions and 54 into Private Licensed Houses.

Towards the end of the year, Parliament passed the projected amendments to the Lunacy Act which had been forecast in previous reports. Early in 1934 the new Act will come into force and the Department will be known as the Department of Mental Hygiene, the State Hospitals for the Insane as Mental Hospitals, and Private Licensed Houses will be designated Private Mental Homes.

The arrangements whereby we anticipated having additional accommodation in the Castlemaine Benevolent Asylum before the end of the year failed to materialize, and the same comment has to be made with regard to the acquisition of the Pleasant Creek Hospital at Stawell.

Although the Yarra Boulevard is winding its way through the grounds of the Kew Mental Hospital, no definite determination has been come to with regard to the ultimate fate of the two institutions on this reserve.

The amount provided on the annual estimates is wholly inadequate to keep the fabric of the various buildings of the Department in a thoroughly sound condition, although it appears possible that the long anticipated installation of water-borne sewerage schemes in certain country institutions is likely to materialize.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. ERNEST JONES,

Inspector-General of the Insane.

TABLE I.—Showing the Distribution of the Insane on 31st December, 1933.

	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Resident in the Hospital for the Insane—						
Kew	468	406	874			
Kew Children's Cottages	225	251	476			
Ararat	392	230	622			
Beechworth	368	316	684			
Sunbury	482	621	1,103			
Ballarat	219	507	726			
Royal Park	39	46	85			
Mont Park	628	712	1,340			
				2,821	3,089	5,910
Out on trial leave from the Hospitals for the Insane .. .. .	..	..	..	397	374	771
Boarded out from the Hospitals for the Insane .. .. .	..	..	..	79	52	131
Total number of registered lunatics on the books of the Public Hospitals for the Insane .. .. .	..	..	..	3,297	3,515	6,812
Resident in the Licensed Houses at—						
Pleasant View	15	10	25			
Mount Ida .. .. .	..	..	..
Merton .. .. .	..	25	25			
Belmont .. .. .	..	18	18			
Ratho Park .. .. .	..	..	..
				15	53	68
Out on trial leave from the Licensed Houses .. .. .	..	..	..	4	15	19
Total number of registered lunatics in the State .. .. .	..	..	..	3,316	3,583	6,899

Excluding Voluntary Boarders (64 males and 59 females) and Soldiers (215).

TABLE II.—Showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during the Year ended 31st December, 1933.

	Males.	Females.	Totals.	Males.	Females.	Total.
In the Hospital, 1st January, 1933	2,807	3,042	5,849			
On trial leave	401	381	782			
Boarded out	66	45	111			
Total number on books, 1st January, 1933	..	..	..	3,274	3,468	6,742
Cases admitted—						
First admissions	368	411	779			
Not first admissions	37	32	69			
Escaped patients retaken	62	11	73			
Total cases admitted during the year ..	..	..	..	467	454	921
Total cases under care during the year	..	..	..	3,741	3,922	7,663
Cases discharged—						
Recovered	75	104	179			
Relieved	69	72	141			
Not improved	4	9	13			
Escaped	66	16	82			
Died	230	206	436			
Total cases discharged and died during the year .. .. .	..	..	..	444	407	851
Remaining in the hospital, 31st December, 1933	2,821	3,089	5,910			
Patients on trial leave	397	374	771			
Patients boarded out	79	52	131			
Total number on books, 31st December, 1933 .. .. .	..	..	..	3,297	3,515	6,812
Average number resident during the year ..	2,819	3,069	5,888	..	..	..
Persons under care during the year ..	3,776	4,013	7,789	..	..	..
Persons admitted	405	443	848	..	..	..
Persons recovered	75	104	179	..	..	..

TABLE III.—Showing the Previous Attacks among Persons Admitted during the Year 1933.

Number of Previous Attacks.	Persons.		
	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Have had one attack	55	66	121
Have had two attacks	8	9	17
Have had three attacks	4	4	8
Have had four attacks	2	1	3

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 1905 to 1933 inclusively, the Soldiers treated under Sections 234 to 238 (Mental Treatment) of the *Lunacy Act* 1928, the Number of Patients in the Receiving Houses and Wards, and also the Voluntary Boarders on the Books of the Public Hospitals for the Insane and Private Licensed Houses at the end of each Year.

Year.	Registered Insane.						Soldiers.			Receiving Houses and Receiving Wards.			Voluntary Boarders.						
	Hospitals for the Insane.			Private Licensed Houses.			Total of Registered Insane.	Increase, + Decrease, -	Number.	+ Decrease, +	Males.	Females.	Total.	Hospitals for the Insane.		Private Licensed Houses.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.								Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.		Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
*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	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1916	2,882	2,911	5,793	11	79	90	5,883	+21	...	20	31	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1917	2,901	2,932	5,833	12	74	86	5,919	+36	...	21	31	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1918	2,889	3,026	5,915	14	71	85	6,000	+81	...	30	30	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1919	2,855	2,991	5,846	16	75	91	5,937	-63	...	42	42	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1920	2,888	2,942	5,830	17	78	95	5,925	-12	...	34	59	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1921	2,869	2,973	5,842	17	82	99	5,941	+16	...	37	46	83	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1922	2,909	3,088	5,997	24	80	104	6,101	+160	...	44	43	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1923	2,932	3,094	6,026	19	78	97	6,123	+22	...	39	42	81	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1924	2,923	3,173	6,096	22	73	95	6,191	+68	...	33	39	72	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1925	2,977	3,215	6,192	19	71	90	6,282	+91	...	46	47	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1926	3,055	3,274	6,329	20	76	96	6,425	+143	...	40	47	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1927	3,053	3,307	6,360	14	77	91	6,451	+26	...	45	44	89	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1928	3,150	3,351	6,501	17	69	86	6,587	+136	...	44	49	93	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1929	3,168	3,363	6,531	17	72	89	6,620	+33	...	37	44	81	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1930	3,234	3,435	6,669	15	75	90	6,759	+139	...	36	54	91	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1931	3,235	3,409	6,704	24	70	94	6,798	+39	...	36	41	77	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1932	3,274	3,468	6,742	28	73	101	6,843	+55	...	49	52	101	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1933	3,297	3,515	6,812	19	68	87	6,899	+56	...	57	65	122	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Private Licensed Houses recognised.

† Receiving House, Royal Park, opened September, 1907.

‡ Voluntary Boarder Act, in force October, 1914.

§ War Mental Treatment Act, in force August, 1915.

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, 1905.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.			Died.			Remaining 31st December in each Year.			Average Numbers Resident.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.					
	Recovered.		Total.	Relieved.		Total.	Died.		Total.	Remaining 31st December in each Year.		Total.	Average Numbers Resident.		Total.	Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.		Total.	Percentage of Deaths on the Average Numbers Resident.					
	Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1905	400	338	738	149	101	250	22	39	184	136	320	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	87	156	137	293	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	68	191	137	328	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	229	150	379	2,557	2,457	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	224	147	371	2,612	2,485	5,097	2,379	2,274	4,653	30.33	32.26	31.11	9.41	6.46	7.97	
1910	422	380	802	93	84	177	43	87	233	135	368	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	244	158	402	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	235	151	386	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	238	155	393	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	210	174	384	2,886	2,843	5,729	2,584	2,462	5,046	28.76	25.41	27.26	8.12	7.00	7.60	
1915	434	390	824	108	110	218	56	37	262	199	461	2,882	2,885	5,767	2,622	2,509	5,131	24.88	28.21	26.46	9.99	7.93	8.98	
1916	403	369	772	105	100	205	41	40	251	200	451	2,882	2,911	5,793	2,607	2,541	5,148	26.05	27.10	26.55	9.62	7.87	8.76	
1917	402	360	762	80	103	183	55	50	230	179	409	2,901	2,932	5,833	2,606	2,539	5,145	19.90	28.61	24.02	8.83	7.05	7.95	
1918	346	416	762	75	80	155	62	65	218	172	390	2,889	3,026	5,915	2,612	2,577	5,189	21.68	19.03	20.34	8.35	6.67	7.52	
1919	384	361	745	83	109	192	67	89	259	189	448	2,855	2,991	5,846	2,598	2,589	5,187	21.61	30.19	25.77	9.97	7.30	8.64	
1920	465	399	864	77	150	227	72	90	274	200	474	2,888	2,942	5,830	2,621	2,589	5,210	16.56	37.59	26.27	10.45	7.72	9.10	
1921	383	419	802	81	113	194	60	68	242	198	440	2,869	2,973	5,842	2,613	2,646	5,259	21.15	26.97	24.19	9.26	7.48	8.37	
1922	434	404	838	87	94	181	58	39	231	145	376	2,909	3,088	5,997	2,620	2,727	5,347	20.05	23.27	21.60	8.82	5.32	7.03	
1923	470	357	827	106	98	204	42	44	276	198	474	2,932	3,094	6,026	2,626	2,750	5,376	22.55	27.45	24.67	10.51	7.20	8.82	
1924	402	407	809	84	95	179	53	48	101	254	176	2,923	3,173	6,096	2,605	2,792	5,397	20.90	23.34	22.13	9.75	6.30	7.97	
1925	399	347	746	82	85	167	54	53	198	158	356	2,977	3,215	6,192	2,592	2,802	5,394	20.55	24.50	22.39	7.64	5.64	6.60	
1926	434	407	841	79	90	169	50	51	208	195	403	3,055	3,274	6,329	2,626	2,841	5,467	18.20	22.11	20.10	7.92	6.86	7.37	
1927	430	395	825	68	97	165	80	74	268	180	448	3,053	3,307	6,360	2,663	2,875	5,538	15.81	24.55	20.00	10.07	6.26	8.09	
1928	483	394	877	85	101	186	36	45	248	194	442	3,150	3,351	6,501	2,694	2,930	5,624	17.60	25.63	21.21	9.21	6.62	7.86	
1929	459	409	868	75	109	184	105	81	235	193	428	3,168	3,353	6,521	2,731	2,948	5,679	16.34	26.65	21.19	8.60	6.54	7.53	
1930	425	456	881	90	103	193	74	91	181	185	366	3,234	3,435	6,669	2,804	3,023	5,827	21.74	22.59	21.91	6.45	6.11	6.28	
1931	424	411	835	66	88	154	84	77	260	205	465	3,235	3,469	6,704	2,801	3,058	5,859	15.57	21.41	18.44	9.28	6.70	7.94	
1932	432	350	782	72	94	166	74	74	218	176	394	3,274	3,468	6,742	2,784	3,061	5,845	16.66	26.85	21.22	7.83	5.75	6.74	
1933	405	443	848	75	104	179	69	72	230	206	436	3,297	3,515	6,812	2,819	3,069	5,888	18.54	23.47	21.10	8.15	6.71	7.40	
Total	12,338	11,003	23,341	2,797	2,890	5,687	1,554	1,577	6,687	5,028	11,715	...	...	...	74,900	75,956	150,856	22.66	26.26	24.36	8.92	6.61	7.76
												2,582	2,619	5,201							

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 the year ended 31st December, 1933.

Year.	Admitted.			Discharged.						Died.			Remaining on the Books 31st December, 1933.			Average Number Resident during the year 1933.			Percentage of Recoveries on Admissions.			Percentage of Relieved on Admissions.			Percentage of Deaths on Average Number Resident.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Recovered.			Relieved.			Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.			
				Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.																		
Kew ..	70	77	147	9	5	14	17	9	26	50	32	82	528	475	1,003	481	385	866	12.85	6.49	9.52	24.28	11.68	17.68	10.39	8.31	9.46
Kew Children's Cottages	37	28	65	..	..	..	2	1	3	23	19	42	257	268	525	219	246	465	..	..	..	5.40	3.56	4.61	10.50	7.72	9.03
Ararat ..	14	4	18	2	..	2	1	..	1	13	20	33	394	233	627	393	227	620	14.28	..	11.11	7.14	..	5.55	3.30	8.58	6.23
Beechworth	10	6	16	..	1	1	1	3	4	22	18	40	369	326	695	353	316	669	..	16.67	6.25	10.00	50.00	25.00	6.23	5.70	5.98
Sunbury ..	62	85	147	15	23	38	17	12	29	25	34	59	587	700	1,287	476	615	1,091	24.19	27.06	25.85	27.41	14.11	19.72	5.25	5.53	5.41
Ballarat ..	41	40	81	3	2	5	8	5	13	21	37	58	265	566	831	218	509	727	7.32	5.00	6.17	19.51	12.50	16.04	9.63	7.27	7.98
Royal Park	70	130	200	21	49	70	5	19	24	5	7	12	81	124	205	44	52	96	30.00	37.69	35.00	7.14	14.61	12.00	11.36	13.46	12.50
Mont Park	101	73	174	25	24	49	18	23	41	71	39	110	816	823	1,639	635	719	1,354	24.75	32.88	28.16	17.82	31.50	23.55	11.18	5.42	8.12
Total ..	405	443	848	75	104	179	69	72	141	230	206	436	3,297	3,515	6,812	2,819	3,069	5,888	18.51	23.47	21.10	17.03	16.25	16.62	8.15	6.71	7.40

TABLE VII.—Showing in Quinquennial Periods the Ages of those Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, Not Improved, Escaped not Retaken, and Died during the Year 1933, and of those Remaining on 31st December, 1933.

Ages.	Admitted.			Discharged.						Escaped Patients not Retaken.			Died.		Remaining on 31st December, 1933.					
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Recovered.		Relieved.		Not Improved.		Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.		
				Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.										Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 5 years	9	12	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	10	16	26	
5 years and under 10 years	14	6	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6	44	35	79
10	12	7	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7	54	51	105
15	22	12	34	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	3	11	87	60	147
20	30	25	55	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2	10	141	107	248
25	43	35	78	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	5	14	207	148	355
30	40	42	82	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	9	15	290	229	519
35	34	56	90	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	6	14	302	289	591
40	33	49	82	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	5	15	368	375	743
45	32	37	69	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	13	24	362	399	761
50	25	35	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	12	32	305	377	682
55	15	21	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	16	43	261	349	610
60	28	33	61	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	21	42	297	368	665
65	20	27	47	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	36	59	254	291	545
70	23	18	41	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31	28	59	155	209	364
75	14	15	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	16	39	83	110	193
80	4	5	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	12	21	22	35	57
85	3	5	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	10	7	11	18
90	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5	1	1	2
Unknown...	3	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47	55	102
Total	405	443	848	75	104	179	69	72	141	4	9	13	5	5	230	206	436	3,297	3,515	6,812
Mean Age	46.42	45.77	46.07	43.77	40.53	41.89	40.46	44.36	42.47	34.00	56.55	49.61	45.00	34.40	59.39	62.49	60.86	48.57	52.16	50.42
Mean Age, Children's Cottages	8.35	9.64	8.90	...	...	...	8.50	10.00	9.00	...	...	...	...	...	15.00	16.84	15.83	19.14	22.67	20.95

TABLE VIII.—Showing the Probable Causes of Insanity in the Patients Admitted during the Year 1933.

Causes of Insanity.	Number of Instances in which each Cause was Assigned.											
	Admissions						No. of Cases—					
							Males, 405. Females, 443. Total, 848.					
	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) ..	..	..	..	2	2	4	..	..	..	2	2	4
Adverse circumstances (including business anxieties and pecuniary difficulties) ..	17	12	29	14	4	18	..	..	..	31	16	47
Mental anxiety and worry (not included under above two heads), and over-work ..	..	..	..	19	15	34	..	..	..	19	15	34
Religious excitement ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Love affairs (including seduction) ..	..	1	1	2	2	4	..	..	..	2	3	5
Fright and nervous shock ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
PHYSICAL.												
Intemperance in drink ..	6	..	6	12	7	19	..	..	..	18	7	25
Intemperance (sexual) ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Venereal disease ..	..	1	1	32	11	43	..	..	..	32	12	44
Self-abuse (sexual) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Over exertion ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Sunstroke ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Accident or injury ..	1	..	1	1	3	4	..	..	..	2	3	5
Pregnancy ..	..	..	..	..	5	5	..	..	..	..	5	5
Parturition and the Puerperal state ..	..	..	..	..	11	11	..	..	..	..	11	11
Lactation ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1
Uterine and Ovarian disorder ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puberty ..	19	15	34	8	9	17	1	..	1	28	24	52
Change of life ..	..	12	12	2	14	16	..	..	..	2	26	28
Fevers ..	..	..	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	1	2	3
Privation and starvation ..	..	..	..	2	1	3	..	..	..	2	1	3
Old age ..	27	48	75	28	20	48	..	..	..	55	68	123
Other bodily diseases or disorders ..	3	4	7	32	51	83	..	..	..	35	55	90
Previous attacks ..	39	48	87	..	1	1	..	..	..	39	49	88
Hereditary influences ascertained (direct and collateral)	43	36	79	..	..	..	..	..	..	43	36	79
Congenital defect ascertained	66	43	109	6	5	11	1	..	1	73	48	121
Other ascertained causes ..	..	4	4	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	4	5
Unknown ..	20	32	52	..	1	1	..	24	24	20	57	77
Totals ..	241	256	497	163	167	330	2	24	26	406	447	853
Deduct for combined causes ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	5
Total admissions ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	405	443	848

TABLE IX.—Showing the Form of Mental Disorder on admission in the Admissions, Recoveries, and Deaths for the year 1933, and the Form of Mental Disorder of the patients remaining on books on 31st December, 1933.

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. Intellectual—												
(a) With epilepsy ..	12	8	20	1	..	1	14	10	24	97	107	204
(b) Without epilepsy ..	57	41	98	1	2	3	30	28	58	452	435	887
2. Moral .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
II. Insanity occurring later in life—												
1. Insanity with epilepsy ..	23	20	43	3	2	5	11	1	12	112	98	210
2. General paralysis of the Insane	29	11	40	3	1	4	16	5	21	58	7	65
3. Insanity of the grosser brain lesions ..	3	5	8	1	..	1	5	1	6	12	3	15
4. Acute delirium (acute delirium mania) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Confusional insanity ..	17	35	52	12	14	26	5	8	13	5	22	27
6. Stupor .. .. .	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1
7. Primary dementia ..	87	56	143	16	16	32	25	17	42	526	449	975
8. Mania—												
(a) Recent	7	16	23	6	11	17	1	6	7	9	17	26
(b) Chronic .. .. .	..	2	2	..	1	1	4	5	9	38	85	123
(c) Recurrent	8	19	27	2	8	10	4	4	8	17	31	48
9. Melancholia—												
(a) Recent	23	43	66	10	16	26	7	4	11	17	38	55
(b) Chronic	5	13	18	4	1	5	5	12	17	27	78	105
(c) Recurrent	2	6	8	1	8	9	2	3	5	4	20	24
10. Alternating insanity ..	13	7	20	1	5	6	..	..	..	25	63	88
11. Delusional insanity—												
(a) Systematized ..	5	2	7	..	..	..	3	8	11	32	23	55
(b) Non-systematized ..	41	55	96	6	16	22	11	16	27	293	356	649
12. Volitional insanity—												
(a) Impulse .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
(b) Obsession .. ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
(c) Doubt .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Moral insanity .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
14. Dementia—												
(a) Senile	59	64	123	5	1	6	46	32	78	223	198	421
(b) Secondary or terminal ..	14	39	53	2	2	4	41	45	86	869	1,056	1,925
On trial leave, or boarded out ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	476	426	902
Total	405	443	848	75	104	179	230	206	436	3,297	3,515	6,812

TABLE X.—Showing the condition as to Marriage in Patients Admitted, Recovered, Relieved, Not Improved, Escaped not Retaken, and Died during the year 1933, and of Patients Remaining on the Books, 31st December, 1933.

Condition in Reference to Marriage.	Admitted.			Discharged.									Escaped Patients not Retaken.			Died.			Patients Remaining, 31st December, 1933.					
				Recovered.			Relieved.			Not Improved.														
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.						
Single ..	214	171	385	35	37	72	42	26	68	3	4	7	4	3	7	4	3	7	125	70	195	2,196	1,848	4,044
Married	128	170	298	39	59	98	21	37	58	1	3	4	..	2	2	62	77	139	699	1,113	1,812			
Widowed	24	66	90	1	6	7	3	3	6	..	2	2	..	..	..	19	38	57	88	228	316
Divorced	..	7	7	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	13	25	38
Unknown	2	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	1	2	44	33	77
Total	368	415	783	75	104	179	67	71	138	4	9	13	5	5	10	207	187	394	3,040	3,247	6,287			

(Excluding patients at the Children's Cottages, Kew, none of whom are married.)

TABLE XI.—Showing the Causes of Deaths during the Year 1933.

Cause of Death.	Kew.		Children's Cottages, Kew.		Ararat.		Beechworth.		Sunbury.		Ballarat.		Royal Park.		Mont Park.		Totals.								
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female							
	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total	Total							
Diseases of the Nervous System—																									
Meningitis, inflammation of brain, cerebro-spinal meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
General paralysis of the insane ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebral softening ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epilepsy and convulsions ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hemiplegia, apoplexy, cerebral hemorrhage, cerebral embolism	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other organic disease of brain, including tumours ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Exhaustion from mania or melancholia, not caused by nervous disease otherwise designated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paraplegia and diseases of cord, locomotor ataxia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Neuritis and general sclerosis of nervous system ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases of Blood Vessels—																									
Aneurism, arterio-sclerosis, and other diseases not included in diseases of nervous system ..	8	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases of Respiratory System and Thorax—																									
Pulmonary phthisis ..	4	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia, bronchitis, pleurisy ..	8	3	9	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other forms of pulmonary disease ..	2	3	5	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases of Heart—																									
Valvular disease, fatty degeneration, cardiac syncope, &c. ..	6	6	12	..	5	10	1	2	3	6	10	6	12	18	2	8	16	34	45						
Diseases of Digestive System—																									
Diseases of mouth, pharynx, stomach (non-malignant), intestines, liver, and peritoneum (non-tubercular) ..	3	2	5	..	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases of Genito-Urinary System—																									
Diseases of kidney, bladder, prostate, &c. ..	2	4	6	..	1	3	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
General Diseases—																									
Dysentery (colitis), epidemic diarrhoea, infective enteritis ..	4	7	11	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Typhoid ..	1	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abscess, pyæmia, septicæmia, and cellulitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Influenza, and other fevers ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cancer, carcinoma, sarcoma, malignant disease, excluding malignant tumour of brain ..	1	1	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis and other venereal disease ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
General tuberculosis and tubercle of organs other than lungs	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diseases of thyroid, lymphatic, and other glands ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atrophy, debility, and old age ..	1	1	2	..	4	12	10	7	4	4	5	13	18	..	1	3	6	27	32						
Cause unknown ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Accidents ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suicides ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	50	32	82	23	19	42	13	20	33	40	25	34	59	21	37	58	5	7	12	71	39	110	230	206	436

Ascertained by post-mortem examinations (180 males) (147 females). Total, 327.

STATE HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

Admissions.—There have been 779 first admissions and 69 re-admissions into the State Hospitals during the year. Of these, however, 627 had been previously admitted into a Receiving House or ward. The total admissions into the Receiving Houses were 931, but of these 148 had been previously admitted. This means that there has been approximately a 5 per cent. increase in the reception rate. With regard to the causation of these admissions, no less than 123 out of 848 were regarded as directly due to old age and 121 to congenital defects. Only 25 were said to be caused by intemperance in drink, but there was a slight increase in the number of cases of general paralysis admitted. These figures do not include any voluntary admissions.

Discharges.—Three hundred and twenty (320) cases were discharged from the State Hospitals either as “Recovered” or “Relieved” and 214 from the Receiving Houses.

Deaths.—In the State Hospitals the deaths numbered 436 and the cause of the death was ascertained by post-mortem examination in 327 cases. The principal causes were due to heart diseases and respiratory diseases and conditions associated with old age. There was one death due to typhoid in the case of a child in the Cottages at Kew, and 4 cases at Sunbury, all of which came from the Hill wards, where the water pressure is at times inadequate. Dysentery (colitis) was returned as the cause of death in no less than 34 cases. In many of these the condition was doubtless a terminal one, but the number of deaths returned as due to colitis points very definitely to the necessity for a more perfect isolation of all cases in which diarrhœa is a symptom.

Kew.—During the year the numbers increased to 874 in the main building. This was largely the result of an increase in the receptions of 30 patients (direct admissions) and a further surplus of 13 as a result of transfers. On the other hand, the discharges, both “Recovered” and “Relieved,” were increased, and the deaths totalled 82. Dr. Hollow notes that 76 per cent. of the receptions were of the demented class, 29 per cent. being due to senile conditions. Of the new receptions, no less than 86 per cent. were able sooner or later to go on trial leave. The majority of the deaths were all of an ordinary character, although 14 per cent. were returned as due to enterocolitis. There was one fatal casualty—a female patient succeeded in hanging herself in her single room. The Coronial inquiry exonerated those concerned from blame.

Dr. Hollow refers to the assistance which outside agencies have given in the way of entertainments for the patients, and a Society has been diligent in collecting magazines, papers, and books and has, moreover, given radio sets which are installed in certain of the wards.

Dr. Hollow complains, however, of the drastic way in which Public Works supplies have been curtailed, although amongst other things an extra washing machine and a hydro-extractor were installed in the laundry in consequence of the increasing amount of work, principally coming from the Children’s Cottages.

He again draws attention to the overcrowding which continues and which is especially noticeable on the female side. The extension of the Yarra Boulevard through the Reserve, although chiefly along the riparian frontages, has alienated a very considerable amount of the land and is making it practically impossible for the farm to be successfully conducted.

Children’s Cottages.—In this portion of the Kew Hospital there has also been an increase in the numbers. There were 476 children in residence, the receptions during the year totalling 65, whilst there were 3 transfers away and 3 discharged “Relieved.” There were 42 deaths, the majority being due to pneumonic conditions, but enterocolitis and tubercular manifestations were frequent causes of death amongst these children.

Although an addition to the Nursery has been made, the number of small children committed under the Act has steadily increased, and the problem of overcrowding becomes more and more urgent each successive year. The work undertaken by the teachers supplied by the Education Department has been of a very definite benefit to a small proportion of the children, and it is certain that the teachers have carried out their duties with exceptional zeal and aptitude. It must again be pointed out that some of the accommodation for the nurses is of a very unsatisfactory character.

Ararat.—At the end of the year there were 622 patients in residence, which was the same number as at the beginning of the year. The daily average number resident was 620. The admissions totalled 47, of which 25 were transfers from other Mental

Hospitals. Nine (9) male patients were transferred to the Ballarat Benevolent Asylum and there were in all 33 deaths. In no case is it necessary to make any comment as to the causation of death. No serious accidents occurred, and there was no resort to the use of seclusion or restraint.

Dr. Henty reports that work on the water-borne sewerage scheme has been commenced, and he expresses satisfaction with the pavilion dormitories which have been erected in connexion with the two admission cottages. He refers once more to the necessity for an increased expenditure in the matter of repairs, and particularly refers to the need for the replacement of certain floors in the wards. He might equally have commented on the extremely scanty amount of comfortable furniture in the institution, but particularly in the male chronic wards.

Beechworth.—Owing to the death of Dr. Albert Curtis, Dr. J. S. A. Rogers is now Medical Superintendent to this institution.

The numbers have increased until there are now 684 in residence and 11 out on trial leave. During the year there have been 16 direct admissions and 42 transfers from other institutions. Six (6) have been discharged, 1 transferred away, and there have been 40 deaths. Of these deaths, 16 were due to senility, 3 to epilepsy, and 2 to colitis. No case of typhoid fever has occurred, which possibly is a result of the periodic vaccination of the inmates. One (1) male patient died subsequently from burns and shock due to the fact that his clothing caught fire from a pipe lighter which he had put into his pocket.

Dr. Rogers asks for the routine services of a visiting dentist, more easy chairs for the elderly patients, an additional grant for library books, more wireless sets, and the provision of occasional "Talkie" entertainments. Amongst other things which Dr. Rogers mentions as necessitating attention are repairs to the eaves throughout the institution and an increased supply of repair material for such work as fencing, but particularly does he stress the necessity for improvement in the water supply, especially an increased pressure. This will inevitably be necessary before the projected water-borne sewerage scheme can be installed.

This institution might readily be commended for the excellent way in which the grounds are maintained as well as for the work on the farm and dairy. The cottages and hospital wards on both sides of the institution provide very excellent accommodation for the class of patients accommodated therein, and these portions of the institution are so arranged as to give quite a considerable amount of freedom to the patients.

Sunbury.—At the end of the year there were 1,103 certified patients and 2 voluntary boarders in residence, the daily average number resident during the year being 1,091. The admissions and transfers to Sunbury totalled 169. There were 38 discharged "Recovered" and 59 deaths. The deaths included several who were boarded out or were on trial leave.

Although the health of the patients in residence has been good there have been 13 cases of typhoid fever, 4 of which terminated fatally. Six (6) cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were reported and there have been sporadic outbreaks of bacillary dysentery. In spite of this, the Medical Superintendent, Dr. Cade, does not consider that we should be justified in saying that these conditions assumed anything of an epidemic form. Necessarily, however, they gave rise to some anxiety and the avenues of infection were closely examined. The milk and water supply and the food can be regarded as above suspicion and one can only surmise the presence of carriers which were diligently sought after. Some prophylaxis is obtained by inoculation, but it is not thought that freedom will be achieved until a well-balanced water-borne sewerage system is installed. Notwithstanding these infections, the death rate of those in residence, boarded out, and on leave was a very low one, namely 4.6 per cent.

In spite of the fact that additions to Ward 10 have been provided, thereby giving accommodation for 30 extra female patients, the institution must still be regarded as overcrowded, and possibly this fact plays a considerable part in the causation of the infectious diseases previously referred to.

Amongst other things mentioned by the Medical Superintendent as necessary are a new recreation hall, a new residence for the Head Attendant, reconstruction of the main roads to the institution and better accommodation for single members of the male staff. Whilst the milk supply has been abundant, from time to time the provision of fresh vegetables has not been altogether satisfactory, and it has been necessary to purchase supplies to make up this deficiency.

Ballarat.—At the end of the year in the Mental Hospital at Wendouree, there were 726 patients in residence. One hundred and three (103) patients were admitted during the year and the discharges and deaths numbered 89. Of the admissions, 70 were first admissions, 11 not first admissions, and 18 transfers. There were 18 discharges, 8 patients transferred away, and 58 died, of whom 8 were on leave or boarded out. The daily average number resident during the year was 727. The chief causations of death were debility of old age and diseases of the heart. There was 1 death from colitis and no cases of typhoid fever.

There were a few minor casualties. Four (4) old female patients fell and sustained intracapsular fractures of the femur.

Seclusion was not used during the year and neither was restraint necessary for male patients, but in the case of a few female patients—epileptic and suicidal—temporary restraint had to be applied from time to time. Seven (7) such patients required restraint—6 cases because they were dangerous to themselves or others, and in 1 case for surgical reasons.

The Medical Superintendent brings forward several necessities and requirements that have previously been mentioned. Undoubtedly the most important of all is the provision of an entirely new male block which would accommodate 300 patients and would enable us to do away entirely with the old male building, which is inadequate and out of date, and which would require as much spent on it to remodel it as would provide an entirely new institution. Many of the roads require repairs and the water supply has been quite inadequate during the summer months and would, in the event of a fire, render the position of some of the wards a very desperate one. The sewerage system has given trouble as it was badly laid in the first instance and blockages are continually occurring. The Medical Superintendent asks for a new strong room to contain the statutory books, and furniture is required for most of the wards.

Ballarat Receiving House.—One hundred (100) patients have been admitted to this institution during the year, and there were 37 discharges. There were no deaths. There were 7 voluntary boarders, and generally speaking the health of the patients was quite satisfactory.

Whilst there has been some increase in the use of this institution, there is no doubt that still further advantage could well be taken of it, particularly if it were possible to have an additional medical officer on the staff of the Mental Hospital who could be stationed at the Receiving House. There is always a most satisfactory atmosphere of efficiency and sympathy to be noticed in this small reception house.

Royal Park Mental Hospital and Receiving House.—Dr. J. K. Adey presents a combined report for these two institutions. Into the Receiving House 785 patients were admitted and 166 cases discharged. There were 43 deaths. Into the Mental Hospital there were 203 direct admissions and 98 discharges, whilst 12 patients died. There were 119 patients on trial leave from this institution, and the voluntary boarders admitted to the Royal Park institution during the year numbered 149. Of these 122 were discharged and only 25 certified.

This result clearly shows the great advantage to be gained from the voluntary boarder system and very specially organized institutions for recent cases. The readiness with which patients are brought to these institutions rather than to those Mental Hospitals which maintain a considerable number of chronic and incurable cases speaks readily of their success.

The health of the patients generally has been good and there has been no outbreak of infectious diseases. Seclusion was only used for two patients for brief periods.

A female patient died whilst out on trial leave. She was found on the railway line run over by a train. Presumably this was a suicide.

Dr. Adey comments on the large number of cases of primary dementia admitted during the year.

He acknowledges the benefits derived from the provision of wireless sets resulting from the activities of the Society for the Promotion of the Welfare of the Mentally Afflicted.

Dr. Adey would like to see the development of positions in the Department which would attract young medical practitioners with a leaning towards psychological research. He also would like to have a dispenser and an almoner as well. Furthermore, he asks for some method of heating single rooms and for additional rooms for the Secretarial staff.

Monk Park.—The Medical Superintendent, Dr. J. Catarinich, reports as follows :—

On December 31st, there were present in this Hospital, 628 males and 712 females. The average number resident throughout the year was 1,354. Deaths numbered 110. There were 94 discharges. Admissions numbered 119 males and 91 females.

Early in the year the military mental patients were transferred to Bundoora and after much delay renovations of the vacated wards were undertaken. It is intended to reserve these wards for quiet, depressed, convalescent and voluntary patients. It is necessary to point out that, owing to the sadly overcrowded state of the female wards, a suitable classification of the patients is practically impossible. The need of sound natural refreshing sleep in the treatment of acute mental disturbances is of pre-eminent importance, but it cannot be obtained in the midst of restless, noisy, and mischievous patients. The military mental wards will be in future transformed into a reception ward for quiet patients, and as its environment is both placid and beautiful, it should prove a most helpful medical adjunct. The furnishing of a reception ward should be planned on the lines of a general hospital. It cannot be too strongly stressed that patients acutely ill mentally require similar treatment to patients suffering from acute bodily diseases.

We are now being given the pleasure of seeing the formation of Auxiliaries to our institutions. One believes that the greatest good that these Auxiliaries will accomplish will be the breaking down of the isolation to which our patients are condemned, but they will also do much to help in removing the stupid but current idea that insanity causes a stigma which brands the unfortunate family of the patient.

It is recorded with regret that restraint is becoming frequent instead of being a rarity in this institution. The overcrowding, which is abhorrent to us all, is the main cause of this undesirable measure. The irritability which accompanies some forms of mental derangement is so easily aroused and intensified by close contact of irresponsible and perhaps mischievous patients that restraint becomes necessary to prevent personal injuries. Further, it becomes increasingly difficult for the staff to exercise proper supervision when the number of patients under observation is constantly rising. The necessity of enlarging the accommodation thus becomes more pressing from day to day.

The cutting down of requisitions in the interests of economy has had an extremely bad effect in the appearance of many of the wards. Furnishings are becoming dilapidated and cannot be replaced, whilst urgent repairs to spoutings, &c., cannot be effected. As a result the amount of damage to the buildings generally will eventually cost many times the savings being made at present.

The increasing death rate from colitis is a cause of concern. Whilst dysentery is frequently a terminal condition ensuing from the final disintegration of the organs generally, it is also a menace to the physically strong amongst the patients. Efforts are being made by the pathologist to prepare a protective vaccine. The erection of a small block to deal with infectious troubles generally would be a helpful addition to the institution.

During the year 154 voluntary boarders were treated here, and 95 were discharged. The figures quoted are an indication both of the value of the voluntary boarder clauses of the act and of the appreciation of the activities of this hospital by patients and the medical profession generally.

The general activities of the institution call for no comment. The farm and garden were productive and a great help in maintaining the general health of the patients.

The co-operation and help of all officials is recorded with pleasure.

Military Mental Hospital, Bundoora.—The new blocks were occupied in April. Unfortunately it was soon found that numerous defects existed in the buildings, and several alterations will be necessary to bring them to a state suitable for accommodating mental patients. Under present conditions it is almost impossible to keep these wards in a cleanly state, and the walls generally should be reconditioned as soon as possible.

The housing of all the military cases at Bundoora is distinctly advantageous. A residence for the Medical Officer at Bundoora is being erected.

With the passage of time the more troublesome type of patient is settling down to a quieter existence, although from time to time outbreaks of excitement and destructiveness still occur. The number of patients has now probably reached its maximum and a slow decrease in the numbers housed will probably ensue. The health of the patients generally has been good.

RECEIVING HOUSES AND WARDS.

TABLES showing the Admissions, Re-admissions, Discharges, and Deaths, during the Year ended 31st December, 1933.

	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
In the institutions, 1st January, 1933 .. .. .	..	..	..	49	52	101
Cases admitted—						
First admissions	383	400	783	..	..	..
Not first admissions	72	76	148	..	..	..
Escaped patients retaken	6	6	12	..	..	..
Total cases admitted during the year .. .. .	..	..	..	461	482	943
Total cases under care during the year .. .. .	..	..	..	510	534	1,044
Cases discharged—						
Recovered	105	78	183	..	..	..
Relieved	17	14	31	..	..	..
Not improved	14	11	25	..	..	..
Transferred from the institutions	282	345	627	..	..	..
Escaped	7	6	13	..	..	..
Died	28	15	43	..	..	..
Total cases discharged and died during the year .. .. .	..	..	..	453	469	922
Remaining in the institutions, 31st December, 1933 .. .. .	..	..	..	57	65	122
Average number resident during the year .. .. .	..	..	..	45	56	101
Persons under care during the year .. .. .	..	..	..	488	509	997
Persons admitted .. .. .	..	..	..	440	461	901
Persons recovered .. .. .	..	..	..	102	77	179

NURSING EXAMINATIONS, 1933.

	No. of Candidates.	Passed.	Failed.
First Year—Attendants	49	22	27
Nurses	89	44	45
Second Year—Attendants	27	10	17
Nurses	50	32	18
Third Year—Attendants	31	16	15
Nurses	71	39	32
Totals	317	163	154

The proportion of candidates who presented themselves for the Nursing Examinations and succeeded in passing was reasonably satisfactory. The Inspector-General's medal was won by Miss Mary Frances Luke, who is a trained nurse at Mont Park. The Inspector-General had the able assistance of Drs. Catarinich, Hollow, and Adey in these examinations.

BOARDED OUT ON 31st DECEMBER, 1933.

Patients boarded out to—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Private Individuals	3	3	6
Ballarat Benevolent Asylum	18	21	39
Bendigo Benevolent Asylum	4	13	17
Castlemaine Benevolent Asylum	54	15	69
Total	79	52	131

VOLUNTARY BOARDERS.

TABLE showing the number of cases admitted, discharged, and remaining at the end of the year as Voluntary Boarders in the Institutions under the control of the Lunacy Department during the year ending 31st December, 1933.

		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Remaining in the Institutions on the 1st January, 1933 :—							
In Hospitals for the Insane and Receiving Houses ..		59	32	91			
In Licensed Houses		9	28	37			
Admissions—							
In Hospitals for the Insane and Receiving Houses ..		178	91	269			
In Licensed Houses		18	36	54			
Total cases under care during the year .. .. .		..	..	..	264	187	451
Discharged—							
In Hospitals for the Insane and Receiving Houses ..		159	74	233			
In Licensed Houses		15	26	41			
Certified as Insane or Apparently Insane—							
In Hospitals for the Insane and Receiving Houses ..		15	18	33			
In Licensed Houses		1	6	7			
Died—							
In Hospitals for the Insane and Receiving Houses ..		8	1	9			
In Licensed Houses		2	3	5			
Total discharged .. .. .		..	..	..	200	128	328
Remaining in Institutions on 31st December, 1933—							
In Hospitals for the Insane and Receiving Houses ..		55	30	85			
In Licensed Houses		9	29	38			
Total remaining .. .. .		..	..	..	64	59	123

STATISTICAL RETURN OF VOLUNTARY BOARDERS SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE MOVEMENT.

Year.	Admissions.									Discharges.			Certified as Insane or apparently Insane.			Died.		
	State Institutions.			Private Institutions.			Total Admissions.			Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.									
1914 (three months only)	12	4	16	..	1	1	12	5	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1915	41	34	75	5	10	15	46	44	90	38	32	70	8	8	16	3	1	4
1916	73	46	119	3	14	17	76	60	136	49	44	93	8	6	14	3	1	4
1917	70	56	126	5	9	14	75	65	140	75	51	126	10	15	25	1	..	1
1918	68	73	141	2	20	22	70	93	163	52	61	113	7	23	30	..	1	1
1919	73	56	129	8	30	38	81	86	167	71	60	131	21	20	41	2	3	5
1920	73	49	122	21	50	71	94	99	193	76	78	154	12	16	28	..	3	3
1921	87	34	121	20	57	77	107	91	198	84	74	158	21	14	35	2	2	4
1922	81	32	113	17	46	63	98	78	176	82	51	133	23	16	39	2	4	6
1923	56	35	91	18	64	82	74	99	173	50	73	123	16	15	31	1	5	6
1924	76	35	111	21	70	91	97	105	202	79	88	167	9	21	30	4	2	6
1925	70	34	104	19	61	80	89	95	184	76	71	147	10	10	20	2	5	7
1926	77	36	113	17	64	81	94	100	194	78	75	153	14	28	42	1	6	7
1927	106	28	134	13	44	57	119	72	191	101	65	166	19	13	32	4	1	5
1928	145	58	203	25	51	76	170	109	279	134	81	215	6	13	19	4	1	5
1929	87	51	138	13	52	65	100	103	203	92	85	177	15	15	30	3	1	4
1930	86	55	141	12	49	61	98	104	202	89	78	167	4	16	20	5	2	7
1931	129	74	203	12	29	41	141	103	244	95	85	180	12	14	26	5	2	7
1932	124	67	191	36	31	67	160	98	258	138	76	214	15	13	28	5	6	11
1933	178	91	269	18	36	54	196	127	323	174	100	274	16	24	40	10	4	14
Totals	1,712	948	2,660	285	788	1,073	1,997	1,736	3,633	1,633	1,328	2,961	246	300	546	54	49	103
Percentage of discharges and those certified as insane or apparently insane to the admissions										81.77	76.49	81.50	12.31	17.28	15.02	..	..	..

LICENSED HOUSES.

TABLE showing Admissions, Discharges, and Deaths during 1933, and the numbers remaining on 31st December, 1933.

	Resident in Licensed Houses, 1st January 1933—		Discharged Recovered—		Discharged Relieved—		Discharged not Improved—		Died—		Escaped—		Transferred from Mental Hospitals Transferred to Licensed Houses from other Licensed Houses		Escapes retaken		Total cases under care during the year 1933		Total		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Pleasant View	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	
Mount Ida	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	
Merton	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	
Belmont	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	
Ratho Park	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	
Total	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses—																					
Pleasant View	9	5	14	9	5	14	9	5	14	9	5	14	9	5	14	9	5	14	9	5	
Mount Ida	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	3	1	2	
Merton	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	
Belmont	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	
Ratho Park	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	14	7	7	
Total	34	25	59	34	25	59	34	25	59	34	25	59	34	25	59	34	25	59	34	25	
Total number on Books of Licensed Houses, 1st January, 1933																					
Received—	M.	F.	T.																		
First admissions	6	26	32																		
Not first admissions	2	1	3																		
Escapes retaken	3	8	11																		
Transferred from Hospitals (mental)	3	8	11																		
Transferred to Licensed Houses from other Licensed Houses	1	1	2																		
Total	11	36	47																		
Transferred from Mental Hospitals Transferred to Licensed Houses from other Licensed Houses																					
Pleasant View	7	5	12	7	5	12	7	5	12	7	5	12	7	5	12	7	5	12	7	5	
Mount Ida	16	16	32	16	16	32	16	16	32	16	16	32	16	16	32	16	16	32	16	16	
Merton	6	6	12	6	6	12	6	6	12	6	6	12	6	6	12	6	6	12	6	6	
Belmont	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	
Ratho Park	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	
Total	32	35	67	32	35	67	32	35	67	32	35	67	32	35	67	32	35	67	32	35	
Total cases under care during the year 1933																					
Pleasant View	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	23	14	9	
Mount Ida	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	46	29	17	
Merton	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	34	17	17	
Belmont	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	
Ratho Park	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	8	4	4	
Total	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	123	68	55	

N.B.—This table does not include Voluntary Boarders, which are set out hereunder:—

	On Books, 1.1.33.		Remaining, 31.12.33.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pleasant View	5	5	10	8
Mount Ida	11	11	10	10
Merton	12	12	11	11
Belmont	4	4	4	4
Ratho Park	9	28	37	9
Total	37	60	76	38

The licence for "Ratho Park," which was granted on 20th April, 1932, was withdrawn a year later and the home registered under the Health Act.

COST OF MAINTENANCE, ETC.

The total expenditure of the Department for the year 1933-34 amounted to £396,022—an increase of £4,376 over the previous year, whilst there was an increase in the daily average number of patients resident of 89.

In the following table the receipts and expenditure for the past five years are set forth:—

Year.			Daily Average Number Resident.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
				£	£
1929-30	..	..	6,005	78,910	484,404
1930-31	..	..	6,178	70,854	451,012
1931-32	..	..	6,173	63,865	390,398
1932-33	..	..	6,189	61,052	391,646
1933-34	..	..	6,278	59,802	396,022

Details of receipts and expenditure for the year will be found in Tables XII., XIII., and XIV.

An increased expenditure of £2,571 occurred in the item "Salaries," mainly owing to the appointment of nursing staff for the new wards at Mont Park, Sunbury, and Ararat. There was also an increase of £1,540 under the heading "Clothing and Bedding." Owing to the increase in the market price of wool, the cost of blankets and other woollen materials supplied to the Department was considerably higher than that of the previous year. An unforeseen expenditure of £2,300 occurred as a result of the introduction of the Commonwealth Flour Assessment Act. This tax, which took effect from 1st December, 1933, was abolished on 31st May, 1934. There were slight reductions in expenditure under the items "Fuel, Light, and Water" and "Medicines."

The total receipts for 1933-34 were £59,802 as compared with £61,052 for the previous year—the amount collected by the Master-in-Equity for the maintenance of patients showing a decrease of £1,355, whilst the revenue derived from sales of stock, farm produce, and miscellaneous items increased by £105. The following statement shows details of the average weekly cost per patient under the various subdivisions of the Vote during the last five years:—

Details of Average Weekly Costs.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.	1932-33.	1933-34.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Salaries	18 2	16 11	15 1½	15 3¼	15 2½
Provisions and Extra Article	7 0¾	6 6¼	5 3¾	4 11½	4 10½
Clothing, Bedding, and Material for Manufacture ..	1 5½	1 1	0 11	1 0¾	1 1¾
Stores	0 8½	0 6½	0 5¾	0 5½	0 6
Fuel, Light, and Water	2 3½	1 10	1 8½	1 9	1 8
Medicines and Stimulants	0 3	0 2¼	0 3	0 3¼	0 3
Incidentals (Postage, Travelling Expenses, Chaplains' Fees, &c.)	0 3¾	0 3	0 3½	0 3	0 3¼
Average weekly cost per patient	30 2¾	27 4	24 1	24 0	23 11
Daily Average Number Resident	6,005	6,178	6,173	6,189	6,278

From the above statement it will be observed that the average weekly cost per patient during 1933-34 was 23s. 11d. as compared with 24s. in the previous year. After collections for maintenance, &c., which are equivalent to 3s. 8d. per week per patient, are deducted, the net weekly cost per patient was 20s. 3d.

E. A. FOSTER,
Chief Clerk and Accountant.

TABLE XII.—Showing the Total Receipts and the Total Expenditure of the Lunacy Department for the Year ended 30th June, 1934.

Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Collections by the Master-in-Equity for Maintenance of Patients in the Hospitals for the Insane ..	55,183	6 11	General Expenses, Salaries at Head Office, Travelling Expenses, Postage, Telegrams, &c.		5,715	3 0
Sales	3,469	15 5	Maintenance of—			
Fines	20	11 0	Hospitals for the Insane ..		384,709	8 9
Collections, Fees, &c.	1,128	8 3	Receiving Ward, Bendigo ..		476	0 0
			Expenses in connexion with the Committal and Transport of Lunatics		1,156	8 10
			Expenses in connexion with the Boarding-out of Patients ..		3,965	15 0
Total	59,802	1 7	Total		396,022	15 7

TABLE XIII.—Showing the Total cost of Maintenance against each Hospital for the Insane, the Sums expended against each Vote, and the amount of General Expenses for the Year ended 30th June, 1934.

Hospitals for the Insane.	Daily Average Number Resident.	Total Cost of Maintenance.		Salaries.		Allowance to Chaplains.		Provisions and Extra Articles.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Kew and Kew Children's Cottages	1,344	74,283	1 8	49,850	12 2	129	12 0	13,280	11 11
Ararat	624	40,873	10 7	26,593	6 6	122	8 0	8,574	8 6
Beechworth	679	40,300	14 3	24,061	1 3	78	8 0	9,871	10 10
Sunbury	1,107	58,914	19 9	35,888	14 10	91	4 0	13,796	4 10
Ballarat and Receiving House	738	46,369	10 2	26,880	11 11	80	16 0	10,067	18 5
Royal Park and Receiving House	203	27,316	12 4	20,519	7 5	43	4 0	3,386	11 5
Mont Park and Military Mental Wards	1,583	96,651	0 0	59,922	2 7	160	0 0	20,492	5 7
General Expenses .. .. .	..	5,715	3 0	4,592	2 6	..	..	..	..
Totals	6,278	390,424	11 9	248,307	19 2	705	12 0	79,469	11 6

Hospitals for the Insane.	Clothing, Bedding, and Material for Manufacture.		Stores, Forage, Purchase of Stock, Books and Amusements.		Fuel, Light, and Water.		Medicines, Medical Comforts, &c.		Stimulants—Wine, Spirits, and Beer.		Incidentals, Postage, Telegrams and Travelling Expenses.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Kew and Kew Children's Cottages ..	4,287	19 8	1,627	18 1	4,012	7 0	558	4 11	95	15 7	440	0 4
Ararat	2,135	0 2	669	8 2	2,379	8 7	163	15 10	11	7 0	224	7 10
Beechworth	2,057	15 1	688	8 4	2,716	0 2	356	16 6	75	16 9	394	17 4
Sunbury	2,523	16 10	1,190	5 11	4,428	10 0	518	7 0	81	6 0	396	10 4
Ballarat and Receiving House ..	2,014	2 11	1,068	2 2	5,252	0 2	431	6 3	132	15 9	441	16 7
Royal Park and Receiving House	374	3 0	900	7 6	1,463	17 6	311	4 4	..	..	317	17 2
Mont Park and Military Mental Wards	4,827	18 8	1,950	2 2	6,920	14 2	1,165	16 2	134	16 7	1,077	4 1
General Expenses ..	357	2 6	151	1 6	..	..	4	9 6	..	..	610	7 0
Totals	18,577	18 10	8,245	13 10	27,172	17 7	3,510	0 6	531	17 8	3,903	0 8

TABLE XIV.—Showing the Average Weekly Cost of Maintenance of Patients during the Year ended 30th June, 1934.

Hospital for the Insane.	Daily Average Number Resident.	Total Cost of Maintenance.		Collections for Maintenance, Sales, Fines, Fees, &c.		Salaries.		Allowance to Chaplains.	
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Kew and Kew Children's Cottages ..	1,344	74,283	1 8	..	..	0 14	3 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0	0 $\frac{1}{8}$
Ararat	624	40,873	10 7	..	..	0 16	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 0	0 $\frac{3}{4}$
Beechworth	679	40,300	14 3	..	..	0 13	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sunbury	1,107	58,914	19 9	..	..	0 12	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Ballarat and Receiving House ..	738	46,369	10 2	..	..	0 14	0	0 0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Royal Park and Receiving House ..	203	27,316	12 4	..	..	1 18	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0	1
Mont Park and Military Mental Wards	1,583	96,651	0 0	..	..	0 14	6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 0	0 $\frac{1}{2}$
Totals	6,278	384,709	8 9	59,802	1 7	..	..	..	..
General Expenses .. .. .	..	5,715	3 0	..	..	..	..	..	..

Hospital for the Insane.	Provisions and Extra Articles.	Clothing and Bedding and Material for Manufacture.	Stores, Forage, Purchase of Stock, Books, Amusements, &c.	Fuel, Light and Water.	Medicines and Medical Comforts, Surgical Instruments, &c.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Kew and Kew Children's Cottages ..	0 3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 1 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 0 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 1 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 0 2
Ararat	0 5 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 1 3 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 0 5	0 1 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 1 $\frac{1}{4}$
Beechworth	0 5 7	0 1 2	0 0 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
Sunbury	0 4 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 5	0 1 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 2
Ballarat and Receiving House ..	0 5 3	0 1 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 2 9	0 0 2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Royal Park and Receiving House ..	0 6 5	0 0 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 1 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 2 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 7
Mont Park and Military Mental Wards	0 4 11 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 1 2	0 0 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 1 8	0 0 3 $\frac{1}{4}$
Totals .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..
General Expenses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..

Hospital for the Insane.	Stimulants, Wine, Spirits, and Beer, &c.	Incidentals, Postage and Telegrams, and Travelling Expenses.	Total Weekly Cost of Maintenance per Patient.	Average Collections per Patient per Week for Maintenance, Sales, Fees, Fines, &c.	Weekly Cost net per Patient, deducting Collections for Maintenance, Sales, Fees, Fines, &c.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Kew and Kew Children's Cottages ..	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 1 3	..	..
Ararat	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 1 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 5 2 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	..
Beechworth	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 2 10	..	..
Sunbury	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	0 0 2	1 0 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	..	..
Ballarat and Receiving House ..	0 0 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 0 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	1 4 2	..	..
Royal Park and Receiving House ..	..	0 0 7 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 11 9	..	..
Mont Park and Military Mental Wards	0 0 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	0 0 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 3 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	..	..
Totals .. .. .	..	..	1 3 6 $\frac{3}{4}$	0 3 8	1 0 3
General Expenses .. .. .	..	..	0 0 4 $\frac{1}{4}$	..	..

REPORT OF THE PATHOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

Dr. C. Farran-Ridge reports as follows :—

“ A bacteriological investigation of asylum dysentery occurring at Mont Park was brought to a successful conclusion and the results were published in the *Medical Journal of Australia* in the form of a conjoint paper by Miss Dora Lush, Research Scholar in the Bacteriological Department of the University of Melbourne, and myself.

A prophylactic anti-dysentery vaccine was prepared and administered to about 160 patients in wards specially liable to infection, leaving an equal number of patients unvaccinated as controls. Sufficient time has not yet elapsed to allow of an opinion as to the efficacy of this measure.

During the year 1933, 26 deaths at Mont Park and 33 deaths at Kew could be attributed wholly or in part to dysentery.

The serological research mentioned in last year's report on the cerebro-spinal fluid and serum of patients undergoing malarial treatment for neuro-syphilis was continued throughout the year.

I gratefully acknowledge the very considerable amount of work done for us by Dr. Gunnensen, of the Bacteriological Department of the University of Melbourne, particularly in regard to the Vernes test. It is hoped to publish the results of this laborious and prolonged investigation next year in the form of a conjoint clinical and serological paper by Dr. Brothers, Dr. Gunnensen, and myself.

A number of minor investigations were carried out at Mont Park which will not be referred to as they led to negative or inconclusive results.

At Kew twelve deaths could be attributed wholly or in part to tuberculosis.

The amount of routine work done at the Mont Park laboratory shows a great increase over previous years.

It is a pleasure to pay tribute to the keenness and efficiency of the laboratory assistants.”

DENTAL DEPARTMENT.

The dentist of the Department, Mr. L. J. P. Govett, who was unfortunately away for nearly three months on sick leave, has nevertheless carried out his routine duties at the metropolitan institutions with care and enthusiasm. No less than 816 patients have had sympathetic dental treatment.

IN GENERAL.

As indicated in last year's report, a Bill for the amendment of the Lunacy Act was presented to Parliament and has actually become law, but will not be proclaimed until the 14th February, 1934. This new legislation provides for a change in the nomenclature of the Department, which will become the Department of Mental Hygiene; certain alterations in the Act provide for the rectification of the anomalies and the appointment of a pathologist, and alterations in the procedure dealing with criminal cases and the duration of Receiving House certificates are provided for.

Accommodation.—Additional wards and other accommodation anticipated in the report for 1933 have not yet been completed at the end of 1934. Neither has any determination been arrived at concerning the Kew Mental Hospital and Children's Cottages, which are on the same reserve. Doubtless the difficulties of the financial position have had much to do with these unhappy delays, but when money has been made available it has been found increasingly difficult to get the approved works completed in the time limit of the financial year.

The plans have been prepared, and there is every prospect of the Ararat Mental Hospital being served with a properly constructed water-borne sewerage scheme. It is anticipated that the hospitals at Sunbury and Beechworth will be similarly served after the work at Ararat has been completed. In connexion with these desirable works, it must be remembered that the water supplies to the hospitals must also be secured, otherwise the water closet system would be worse than the double-pan system in existence to-day.

Beyond the erection of wards to receive fresh cases and relieve overcrowded wards, there is the problem of the reconstruction of the male side at Ballarat, which contains beds for 212 cases. Furthermore, special wards are required for epileptic patients, and particularly is this the case with male patients. There is always room for doubt whether it is wise to establish one special institution for the epileptic insane, owing to the objections which are certain to be raised by the relatives as to visiting, and it would seem desirable that separate blocks should be provided for this class of patient in those institutions appropriated for the less curable. The number of epileptics now in the ordinary wards more than justifies the provision of special accommodation. New admission wards are needed at Mont Park, and when these are provided, it is desirable that no further increase in the number of patients should be permitted in that institution.

There are, however, many other desirable additions needed which are calculated to improve the comfort and efficiency of the staff. Amongst them are quarters for both male and female staff at Mont Park, and at Ararat quarters for nurses and homes for artisans. At Sunbury a new recreation hall and chapel are most desirable, as it is not too much to say that the present structure is wholly unsuitable even if it is not extremely dangerous. Additions to the offices and staff quarters are also needed at Royal Park and, finally, one is justified in asking that a very much larger financial provision be made for the equipment of the wards in every institution, for fresh furnishings are seriously needed.

Previously reference has been made in these reports to the establishment of a voluntary hospital in the metropolitan area. One can only reiterate the request, the necessity for which is felt more and more with the realization that mental disorder is largely curable when treatment is available in the early stages.

Mental Defectives.—It is gratifying to report that the special school known as “Travancore,” which was designed for the reception of children who, although mentally defective, are capable of receiving benefit from special instruction, was opened successfully on the 8th February. Its present capacity is for 60 children, but it is confidently expected that these numbers will be doubled as there is an undoubted demand for an institution of such a character.

The Matron is Miss M. McNab, an ex-military nurse; the Secretary of the institution is Mr. E. R. H. Ebbs, of this Department, and the Education Department have supplied the teaching staff, at the head of which is Miss E. Torgrimson. The medical services are supplied by the staff from the Royal Park Hospital for the Insane.

W. ERNEST JONES.