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CHAPTER XI. PUBLIC BENEVOLENCE.

§ 1. Introductory.

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

No poor-rate is levied in Australia, and Government aid without return is required only for the aged and disabled. Moreover, although Old-age Pensions, Invalid Pensions, and Maternity Allowances are paid by the Commonwealth, the payments are looked upon rather in the light of a citizen's right than as a charity. Reference to these matters will be found in § 6 and 7A of Chapter VIII.

From time to time relief funds have been organized for famine-stricken countries in various parts of the world or for places where plague, flood, fire, or earthquake has shown the need of urgent relief. Special funds were also raised for persons disabled or bereaved through war. Complete statistical information in regard to these forms of charity is not, however, available. It may be mentioned that the daily Press frequently accepts the duty of collectorship in charity appeals. In regard to subscriptions to the various patriotic funds which were instituted in consequence of the war, the total for Australia is estimated to exceed £12,500,000 sterling.

§ 2. The Larger Charities of Australia.

1. **Hospitals.**—(i) *General.* All the State capitals have several large and well-equipped hospitals, and there is at least one in every important town. In large centres there are hospitals for consumptives, women, children, infectious diseases, incurables, etc.

(ii) *Principal Hospitals in each State.* The particulars given herein refer to general hospitals, and include all institutions affording general hospital relief.

(a) *New South Wales.* A Government hospital, with a staff of 33 medical officers and accommodation for about 700 patients, is established at Little Bay, near Sydney. Altogether, there are four hospitals for women, one for women and children, and three for children in the metropolis. The Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, with a medical staff of 89, and with 584 beds, is the largest metropolitan subsidized institution. Amongst other large metropolitan hospitals may be mentioned the Sydney Hospital, with a medical staff of 67 and with 382 beds, St. Vincent's with 44 doctors and 220 beds, and Lewisham with 34 medical attendants and 275 beds. In extra-metropolitan areas the Waterfall Hospital for Consumptives, which is a Government institution, provides accommodation for 408 patients. The Newcastle Hospital has 180 beds and a medical staff of 25. At the Carrington Convalescent Home at Camden there is provision for 110 patients. The hospital in the Broken Hill district can accommodate 173.

(b) *Victoria.* There are several large metropolitan hospitals in Victoria. The largest of these, the Melbourne Hospital, has 358 beds ; the Austin Hospital for Incurables has 290, the Alfred Hospital 168, St. Vincent's 126, and the Homœopathic 98. Amongst the country institutions, Bendigo has 222 beds, Geelong 217, and Ballarat 170.

(c) *Queensland.* Of the metropolitan hospitals, the largest is the Brisbane General, which can accommodate 361 patients. The Children's Hospital has 250 beds, the Diamantina 174, and the Mater Misericordiæ 123. Ipswich Hospital, with 150 beds, is the largest of the country institutions, followed by Toowoomba with 130, Rockhampton

with 110, Townsville with 105, Maryborough 96, Charters Towers, 92, Bundaberg 92, Cairns 84, Mackay 84, and Mt. Morgan 71.

(d) *South Australia.* Including the Consumptive Home and Infectious Diseases Block, the Adelaide Hospital can accommodate a total of 580 patients. The most important of the country hospitals are at Port Augusta, Port Pirie, and Wallaroo, with 72, 58, and 48 beds respectively. The Adelaide Children's Hospital has 98 beds.

(e) *Western Australia.* Information regarding the capacity of the Western Australian hospitals is not available, but some idea of their comparative importance may be gained from the figures relating to cases treated. In the metropolis, 4,037 cases were treated at the Perth Hospital in 1922, and 1,625 at the Perth Children's Hospital. Of the country hospitals, Kalgoorlie returned 1,112 cases, Fremantle 1,106, and Woorlooloo 408.

(f) *Tasmania.* There are well-equipped general hospitals in Hobart and Launceston. The former has a medical staff of 4 and can accommodate 225 patients, with additional verandah accommodation if required, and the latter has 243 beds and a medical staff of 3. Hospitals for women have been established in both centres, and there is a sanatorium for consumptives at Newtown. Outside the metropolitan area, the Devon Cottage Hospital has beds for 103 patients; the Lyell District Hospital can accommodate 44 patients, and there are other institutions in important country centres.

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

(iii) *Number, Staff, and Accommodation, 1922.* Details regarding the number of hospitals, staffs, and accommodation for the year 1922 are given in the appended table:—

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—NUMBER, STAFFS, AND ACCOMMODATION, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter.	Total.
Number of Hospitals—								
Government	4	..	4	12	22	3	4	49
Other	157	53	93	29	30	12	1	375
Total	161	53	97	41	52	15	5	424
Medical Staff—								
Males	987	96	214	141	62	23	1	1,538
Females .. ..									9	5	..	..
Total	987	96	223	146	62	23	1	1,538
Nursing Staff and Attendants—								
Males	87	(a) 16	331	97	117	2	5	(a) 655
Females	2,519	(a) 921	1,512	746	615	196	10	(a) 6,519
Total	2,606	1,635	1,843	843	732	198	15	7,872
Accommodation—								
Number of dormitories, etc.	1,132	445	604	292	231	140	8	2,852
Capacity, in cubic feet	8,624,728	4,834,155	4,171,919	1,990,488	2,398,576	1,480,000	120,000	23,619,864
Number of beds, etc.	7,382	3,627	3,872	1,578	1,729	736	45	18,969
Cubic feet to each bed	1,168	1,333	1,077	1,261	1,388	2,010	2,667	1,245

(a) Victorian figures, exclusive of 696 nursing staff and 2 dispensing staff, sexes not available.

(iv) *Patients Treated.* The table hereunder furnishes particulars respecting patients treated for the year 1922. In addition to the accommodation provided in the ordinary wards, a considerable amount of accommodation for certain classes of cases is furnished in out-door or verandah sleeping places, and this can be augmented; full particulars in connexion with these are not available. So far as the returns show, there were 988 out-door beds in New South Wales, 47 in South Australia, 96 in Tasmania, and 20 in the Northern Territory. These figures are not included in the totals given in the table above.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—PATIENTS TREATED, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter.	Total.
Indoor Relief : Persons Treated—								
Males	49,895	18,725	27,781	8,533	8,717	5,088	106	118,845
Females	47,083	15,436	17,841	7,807	5,770	5,382	45	99,364
Total	96,978	34,161	45,622	16,340	14,487	10,470	151	218,209
Inmates at beginning of Year—								
Males	2,689	1,211	1,431	556	621	210	16	6,734
Females	2,282	1,069	814	387	264	281	4	5,101
Total	4,971	2,280	2,245	943	885	491	20	11,835
Admissions and Re-admissions during Year—								
Males	47,206	17,514	27,350	8,814	8,096	4,878	106	113,964
Females	44,801	14,367	17,027	8,207	5,506	5,101	45	95,054
Total	92,007	31,881	44,377	17,021	13,602	9,979	151	209,018
Discharges—Recovered :								
Males	32,876	15,000	24,944	5,272	4,400	4,508	97	87,097
Females	35,237	12,955	15,745	5,730	3,726	4,876	45	78,314
Total	68,113	<i>a</i> 27,955	<i>a</i> 40,689	11,002	8,126	<i>a</i> 9,384	142	165,411
Relieved :								
Males	9,249	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	2,335	2,769	<i>b</i>	..	<i>c</i>
Females	6,004	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	1,591	1,290	<i>b</i>	..	<i>c</i>
Total	15,253	<i>b</i>	<i>b</i>	3,926	4,059	<i>b</i>	..	<i>c</i>
Unrelieved :								
Males	1,632	94	501	431	273	68	..	3,004
Females	1,346	80	335	326	125	53	..	2,265
Total	2,978	174	836	757	403	121	..	5,269
Not stated :								
Males .. ..	..	677	179	59	..	15	..	930
Females .. ..	..	425	96	58	..	10	..	589
Total .. ..	..	1,102	275	117	..	25	..	1,519
Deaths—								
Males	3,395	1,793	1,684	712	692	274	9	8,559
Females	2,103	956	852	469	343	202	1	4,926
Total	5,498	2,749	2,536	1,181	1,035	476	10	13,485
Inmates at end of Year—								
Males	2,743	1,161	1,473	561	568	223	16	6,745
Females	2,393	1,020	813	420	286	241	3	5,176
Total	5,136	2,181	2,286	981	854	464	19	11,921
Average Daily Resident—								
Males	} 5,779	2,274	2,523	{ 594 499	625 340	237 268	16 4	} 13,159
Females								
Total	5,779	2,274	2,523	1,093	965	505	20	13,159

(a) Including-relieved.

(b) Included in recovered.

(c) Not available.

(v) *Summary for Five Years, 1918 to 1922.* Returns for the last five years of the number of hospitals in Australia, admissions, patients treated, deaths, and expenditure, are given in the following table. Figures for general hospitals only are tabulated, since the working of "special" institutions is not properly comparable with those which treat every class of case.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1918 TO 1922.

Particulars.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
Number of institutions ..	393	393	393	404	424
Number of beds ..	17,000	17,390	17,890	18,342	18,969
Admissions during year ..	174,379	193,920	202,053	205,072	209,018
Indoor patients treated ..	184,176	202,929	211,332	215,278	218,209
Deaths ..	12,494	15,758	14,475	13,969	13,485
Expenditure ..	£ 1,543,162	1,798,297	2,099,601	2,332,116	2,441,075

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

(vi) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure for the year 1922 were as follow :—

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue—								
Fees of patients, etc.	149,848	72,820	57,906	51,998	48,216	27,045	503	408,336
Government grants	490,965	73,009	261,109	157,027	82,413	41,424	213	1,106,160
Other ..	433,263	242,682	206,868	57,423	36,036	7,409	..	983,681
Total ..	1,074,076	388,511	525,883	266,448	166,665	75,878	716	2,498,177
Expenditure—								
Salaries and Main-tenance ..	814,313	321,131	443,822	169,841	157,099	54,259	5,386	1,965,851
Buildings ..	154,292	61,636	46,131	62,748	2,554	2,928	199	330,488
Other ..	82,800	2,419	20,719	12,551	6,419	19,828	..	144,736
Total ..	1,051,405	385,186	510,672	245,140	166,072	77,015	5,585	2,441,075

2. *Benevolent and Destitute Asylums.*—(i) *General.* There has been a great increase in recent years in the amount of aid provided for the aged. Two elements, each of them independent of the growth of population, have influenced this increase. One is, that the general age of the community has advanced—the large flow of immigration of sixty and seventy years ago having been mostly of persons in the prime of life; the other is the increased regard paid in all British communities to the well-being of the helpless. In Australia numerous establishments have been founded for the housing and protection of persons no longer able to care for themselves. The institutions are supported by Government and municipal aid, public subscriptions, charity performances, bequests, etc.; and in many cases relatives of indigent and afflicted persons contribute to their maintenance.

The impossibility of an entirely satisfactory statistical tabulation in regard to all forms of charitable aid is especially marked in the case of benevolent institutions, since the conditions under which they have been established in the different centres in Australia have resulted in differences in the classes of cases treated by them. For example, in Western Australia the Home for Destitute Women includes a maternity ward, for which the statistics are not separately kept. Since the chief function of the

institution is aid to the destitute, it has been included amongst benevolent asylums. In Victoria, although nine of the hospitals are also benevolent asylums, they have been classed under hospitals. In South Australia, the Destitute Asylum includes lying-in and children's departments.

(ii) *Principal Institutions.* The principal institutions of this nature in each State are as follows:—

(a) *Government Asylums for the Infirm, New South Wales.* There are five asylums for the infirm maintained by the Government—four for men and one for women. Rookwood, the largest of these, had in 1922 an average number resident of 1,416, Newington 704, and Liverpool 645. At the Cottage Homes, situated at two separate localities in Parramatta, the average number resident was about 485. The State Labour Depot and Refuge at Randwick had 92 inmates during 1922.

(b) *Benevolent Asylums, Victoria.* Besides the asylums attached to hospitals, there are eight institutions in Victoria. In 1921-22, the average daily number of indoor patients was 1,922, and there were 328 distinct cases of outdoor relief.

(c) *Benevolent Asylums, Queensland.* There are four institutions in Queensland, with 1,259 beds. The most important of these is at Dunwich (Stradbroke Island) with 1,141 beds, while there are small institutions at Nundah, Rockhampton, and Toowoomba. At the end of 1922 the inmates of the four institutions numbered 1,180.

(d) *Destitute Asylum, South Australia.* Outside of hospitals and lunatic asylums the destitute of South Australia are dealt with and relieved at the Destitute Asylum and the Aged Men's Home, Beaumont. The former institution includes a children's department. In the asylum the number of inmates at the end of 1922 was 387; in the Beaumont Home it was 71.

(e) *Homes for the Destitute, Western Australia.* There are two homes in Western Australia supported by public funds. The Old Men's Home at Claremont had 597 inmates at the end of 1922, and the Women's Home, Fremantle, which receives children also, had 104 adult inmates.

(f) *Charitable Establishments, Tasmania.* There are two principal Government charitable establishments in Tasmania. The New Town Infirmary and Consumptive Home, with 230 beds, had 208 inmates on 30th June, 1923, and the Home for Invalids, Launceston, with 27 beds, had 27 inmates on the same date.

(iii) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Details regarding revenue and expenditure for the year 1922 are given in the following table:—

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue—							
Government aid ..	144,248	21,122	44,683	41,238	13,660	9,801	274,752
Municipal aid ..	..	882	..	..	..	..	882
Public subs., legacies, etc.	3,589	12,752	2,098	29	..	..	18,468
Fees ..	15,715	24,063	..	6,147	10,327	3,763	60,015
Other ..	7,095	7,496	464	2,618	..	1,084	18,757
Total ..	170,647	66,315	47,245	50,032	23,987	14,648	372,874
Expenditure—							
Buildings ..	2,362	2,154	1,988	525	..	442	7,471
Maintenance ..	159,620	53,469	44,618	49,421	23,987	12,639	348,754
Other ..	7,819	1,638	500	59	..	1,567	11,583
Total ..	169,801	62,261	47,106	50,005	23,987	14,648	367,808

3. **Orphanages, Industrial Schools, etc.**—(i) *General.* The organization of charitable effort varies greatly in regard to orphans and waifs. In many institutions, shelter and some form of industrial training are offered to destitute children of all classes whether orphans or not, while some of those styled orphanages do not confine their relief strictly to orphans. The expenditure on orphanages in 1922 was approximately £220,000.

(ii) *Principal Institutions.* The principal institutions in each State are as follows:—

(a) *New South Wales.* The care of destitute and neglected children is entrusted to the State Children's Relief Board, whose officers supervise the welfare of the children and the treatment of them by those to whom they are boarded out. Provision is made for instruction in various trades and callings.

There are also orphanages, farm homes, country homes for children, etc., with upwards of 2,000 children under care.

There are several reformatory and industrial schools maintained by the State. At the Parramatta Industrial School for Girls, to which a Training Home is attached, there were on 31st December, 1922, 167 inmates. At the Farm Home for boys, Gosford, there were 70 inmates at the end of 1922.

(b) *Victoria.* There are ten orphanages in Victoria, with 1,793 beds. The daily average of the inmates was 1,808 in 1921-22. The expenditure in the same year was £44,041.

At the end of 1922 there were two industrial and four reformatory schools in the State. Of these, one in each class is wholly controlled by the Government, being used merely as a receiving and distributing dépôt. The children are sent thence to situations, foster homes, or other institutions dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management, receiving an allowance for State wards. Many of the reformatory children are placed with friends, or licensed out.

(c) *Queensland.* There are twelve orphanages in Queensland. The number under care on 31st December, 1922, was 1,043, and the expenditure for the year, £31,658.

There are also seven industrial and reformatory schools, which had 93 boys and 72 girls under detention at the end of 1922.

(d) *South Australia.* The State Children's Department exercises a supervision over the probationary and industrial schools and the reformatories. The total number of admissions into these institutions in 1922 was 857. The number of inmates on the 31st December, 1922, was 355, in addition to which a number were placed out, or had been adopted or apprenticed. There were no deaths amongst children in industrial schools and reformatories, and of those placed out and in other institutions four died.

There are three orphan asylums. The number under care during 1922 was 333, and the number of inmates on 31st December, 1922, was 261. There were no deaths during the year, and the expenditure amounted to £3,770.

(e) *Western Australia.* In Western Australia there were, at 30th June, 1923, five orphanages, five orphanages and industrial schools, and two industrial schools, containing 375 boys and 305 girls. There were also 10 boys and 19 girls at the Government Receiving Dépôt at the 30th June, 1923.

(f) *Tasmania.* There are four industrial schools and one orphanage under benevolent institutions in the State. Admissions in 1922-33 numbered 39, and average daily number of inmates was 187. No deaths occurred during the year. The expenditure was £7,247.

The Newtown Training School for boys had a daily average of 60 during 1921-22.

(iii) *Transactions of State Departments.* The following table summarizes the transactions in 1922 of State Departments for the relief of neglected children :—

STATE RELIEF OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN.—SUMMARY, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (a)	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas. (b)	Total.
Number of children in institutions, boarded out, or on probation—							
Males	2,729	3,402	1,565	787	490	286	9,259
Females	2,349	2,766	1,243	693	472	230	7,753
Total	5,078	(c) 6,168	2,808	1,480	962	516	17,012
Number of children boarded out with their own mothers—							
Males	11,852	7,651	2,484	164	95	164	25,240
Females			2,431	138	111	150	
Total	11,852	7,651	4,915	(f)302	206	(f)314	25,240
Total	16,930	13,819	7,723	d1,782	1,168	830	42,252
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gross cost to State of children's relief ..	474,621	308,565	194,689	48,556	e28,997	23,692	1,079,120
Receipts, from parents' contributions, etc. ..	11,210	13,125	12,383	5,291	5,042	1,682	48,733
Net cost	463,411	295,440	182,306	43,265	e23,955	22,010	1,030,387

(a) For year ending 5th April following. (b) For the year ended 30th June, 1923. (c) Excluding 33 incapacitated children maintained by the State. (d) Excluding 1,826 children (904 males and 922 females) placed with licensed foster-mothers and others. (e) Maintenance State children only. (f) Total number of boarded-out children.

4. *Lepers.*—Lazarets for the treatment of lepers have been established in New South Wales (Little Bay); Queensland (Peel Island, near Brisbane, and Dayman Island, Torres Strait); and the Northern Territory (Mud Island). Two deaths occurred in the latter in the year 1921–22. Quarantine and isolation stations have also been used for the segregation of patients. Up to 1915, 545 cases of leprosy had been recorded in Australia. Later information is not available, but between the calendar years 1916 to 1922 there were 40 deaths from the disease. At the end of 1922 there were 21 lepers in the Little Bay lazaret.

5. *Hospitals for the Insane.*—(i) *General.* The method of compiling insanity statistics has been fairly uniform throughout the States, but differences in diagnosis of the early stages of the disease introduce an element of uncertainty which considerably affects the value of comparisons.

(ii) *Hospitals, Staff, etc., 1922.* Particulars regarding the number of institutions, medical and nursing staff, and accommodation are given in the appended table for the year 1922 :—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—NUMBER, STAFFS, ACCOMMODATION, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.(a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Number of Institutions—							
Government	10	9	3	2	3	1	28
Private	2	(b) 5	..	..	1	..	8
Total	12	14	3	2	4	1	36
Medical Staff—							
Males	24	21	6	4	4	2	61
Females	1	..	1	1	..	..	3
Total	25	21	7	5	4	2	64
Nursing Staff and Attendants—							
Males	676	586	231	93	122	58	1,766
Females	568	543	180	90	68	66	1,515
Total	1,244	1,129	411	183	190	124	3,281
Accommodation—							
Number of dormitories	(f)	(c) 1,382	557	507	44	407	(f)
Capacity, in cubic feet	(f)	(c) 3,688,853	1,922,291	889,389	714,714	878,590	(f)
Number of beds	(c) 6,769	5,510	2,584	1,313	1,186	685	13,047
Cubic feet to each bed	{ (d) (c) 600 } { (e) (c) 1,000 }	666	744	677	{ (e) 605 } { (g) 1,684 }	1,283	(f)

(a) Exclusive of Receiving House, Royal Park, and of the Receiving Wards at Bendigo and Geelong Hospitals. (b) There are five private licensed houses in Victoria, in which there were 104 cases at the end of 1922. Complete figures for these private asylums are not available. (c) Government hospitals only. (d) Ordinary dormitory. (e) Hospital dormitory. (f) Information not available. (g) Private hospitals.

(iii) *Patients, 1922.* Information regarding patients treated, deaths, etc., for the year 1922 is given in the table hereunder :—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—PATIENTS, DEATHS, ETC., 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.(a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Admissions and re-admissions during year—							
Males	667	473	325	192	88	38	1,783
Females	575	403	208	152	56	46	1,443
Total	1,242	879	533	344	144	84	3,226
Discharges—Recovered—							
Males	274	87	138	56	29	8	592
Females	258	94	94	56	18	14	534
Total	532	181	232	112	47	22	1,126
Relieved and unrelieved—							
Males	91	69	13	52	83	8	316
Females	66	49	7	49	27	8	206
Total	157	118	20	101	110	16	522

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

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—PATIENTS, DEATHS, ETC., 1922—*continued.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.(a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Absconders not retaken—							
Males	12	46	..	1	..	..	59
Females	1	3	..	..	..	..	4
Total	13	49	..	1	..	..	63
Deaths—							
Males	335	231	134	62	39	12	813
Females	184	145	58	34	14	19	454
Total	519	376	192	96	53	31	1,267
Number of patients on books at end of year—							
Males	4,440	2,909	1,785	677	739	302	10,852
Females	3,551	3,088	1,057	547	340	297	8,880
Total	7,991	5,997	2,842	1,224	1,079	599	19,732
Average daily number resident—							
Males	4,230	2,620	1,776	667	731	293	10,317
Females	3,175	2,727	1,014	543	350	295	8,104
Total	7,405	5,347	2,790	1,210	1,081	588	18,421
Number of patients on books at end of year per 1,000 of population—							
Males	4.20	3.69	4.29	2.63	4.04	2.75	3.86
Females	3.66	3.85	3.81	2.14	2.12	2.72	3.33
Persons	3.93	3.77	3.61	2.39	3.15	2.74	3.51
Average number of patients resident in hospitals for insane per 1,000 of mean population—							
Males	3.87	3.38	4.30	2.63	4.04	2.71	3.64
Females	3.01	3.43	2.74	2.15	2.20	2.76	2.96
Persons	3.45	3.40	3.57	2.39	3.20	2.73	3.31

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

In some States persons well advanced towards recovery are allowed to leave the institutions and reside with their relatives or friends, but they are under supervision and their names are kept on the books. The figures for admissions, etc., include absconders captured and re-admitted. Generally, very few escapees succeed in avoiding capture.

(iv) *Summary for Australia, 1918 to 1922.* The table hereunder gives a summary for hospitals for the insane in Australia for each of the five years 1918 to 1922. Licensed houses (except as regards expenditure) are included in the totals for New South Wales and Victoria, in the latter the figures are exclusive of reception houses, and observation wards in gaols:—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1918 TO 1922.

Particulars.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
Number of institutions (a) ..	34	35	35	35	36
Number of beds	17,176	17,308	17,468	17,224	18,047
Admissions	3,192	3,323	3,501	3,254	3,226
Discharged as recovered, relieved, etc. ..	1,406	1,565	2,302	1,723	1,648
Deaths	1,383	1,699	1,483	1,473	1,267
Expenditure	£ 951,439	1,116,676	1,414,055	1,398,148	1,303,907

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

(v) *Number of Insane, 1918 to 1922.* The proportion of insane, as well as the total number returned as under treatment, has changed very little during recent years. The next table gives the number of insane under official care in Australia and the proportion per 1,000 of population for the last five years.

INSANE PERSONS IN INSTITUTIONS, 1918 TO 1922.

State.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
NUMBER.					
New South Wales ..	7,581	7,544	7,889	7,970	7,991
Victoria ..	5,915	5,846	5,830	5,842	5,997
Queensland ..	2,623	2,703	2,745	2,753	2,842
South Australia ..	1,153	1,187	1,194	1,190	1,224
Western Australia ..	1,123	1,148	1,166	1,104	1,079
Tasmania ..	575	578	578	584	599
Total ..	18,970	19,006	19,402	19,443	19,732
PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.					
New South Wales ..	3.86	3.70	3.77	3.75	3.93
Victoria ..	4.12	3.89	3.82	3.77	3.77
Queensland ..	3.72	3.66	3.65	3.58	3.61
South Australia ..	2.52	2.46	2.43	2.37	2.39
Western Australia ..	3.62	3.51	3.52	3.48	3.15
Tasmania ..	2.83	2.75	2.72	2.67	2.74
Australia ..	3.73	3.58	3.58	3.53	3.61

For the period embraced in the tables Victoria shows the highest rate of insanity, roughly 1 in 260 persons. It is stated that this is chiefly owing to the proportionately greater number of the aged in that State. On the other hand, in South Australia a considerably lower insanity rate has prevailed, averaging about 1 in 420, Tasmania being next with an average of about 1 in 365.

A more rational attitude towards the treatment of mental cases has resulted in a greater willingness in recent years to submit afflicted persons to treatment at an earlier stage. Hence an increase in the number of recorded cases does not necessarily imply an actual increase in insanity and the small increment in the numbers in the first of the immediately preceding tables is probably, if not solely, due to this circumstance.

(vi) *Causes of Insanity.* The proportion of causes of insanity to the total ascertained causes in Australia in the five years 1918 to 1922 shows that hereditary influence has been the chief factor, more than one-fifth of the total ascertained causes coming under this head. Domestic troubles, adverse circumstances, etc., have also been a fruitful source. Cases due to intemperance in drink range from one in nine to one in thirteen.

INSANITY.—PERCENTAGE OF CAUSES, AUSTRALIA, 1918 TO 1922.

Causes, Previous History, etc.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Domestic trouble, adverse circumstances, mental anxiety ..	9.9	8.4	9.3	10.6	12.6
Intemperance in drink ..	10.2	8.7	10.9	7.7	8.9
Hereditary influence, ascertained; congenital defect, ascertained ..	22.1	21.1	23.7	21.2	21.8
Pregnancy, lactation, parturition and puerperal state, uterine and ovarian disorders, puberty, change of life ..	4.9	5.8	6.0	7.5	7.6
Previous attacks ..	14.6	12.4	12.5	11.5	12.4
Accident, including sunstroke ..	1.5	1.8	1.7	0.8	1.3
Old age ..	9.4	8.1	10.6	9.2	11.7
Veneral disease ..	(a)	(a)	7.1	5.6	3.3
Other causes ascertained ..	27.4	33.7	18.2	25.9	20.4
All ascertained causes ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Not available.

(vii) *Length of Residence in Hospital.* (a) *New South Wales.* Particulars are not available regarding the average length of residence in hospitals during the year of persons who died or were discharged. There are three State Reception Houses, where suspected persons are confined for observation, being subsequently either discharged or transferred to lunatic asylums. In one of the gaols, observation wards have been instituted with similar functions.

(b) *Victoria.* Particulars are not available as to the average length of residence in hospitals during the year of persons who died or were discharged. There are lunacy wards in two of the general hospitals; also a State receiving house where persons are placed for observation, and subsequently discharged or transferred to asylums.

(c) *Queensland.* The average residence in the institutions of those who died during the year was 7 years 135 days for males and 8 years 322 days for females; and of those who were discharged, 2 years for males and 358 days for females. There are three reception houses for insane, which act as depots to which patients are sent with a view to determining whether their mental illness is of a merely temporary character, easily relieved, or is of such a nature as to need further treatment at the State asylums.

(d) *South Australia.* The average residence of those who died was 5 years and 5 months for males and 8 years 9 months for females; of those discharged, 1 year and 7 months for males and 2 years and 2 months for females.

(e) *Western Australia.* The period of residence of those who died during the year averaged about 5 years and 3 months for males and 6 years 5 months for females; of those who were discharged, 3 years and 10 months for males and 3 years and 4 months for females.

(f) *Tasmania.* The period of residence of those who died was 10 years and 5 months for males and 7 years 1 month for females; that of those discharged, 1 year and 2 months for males and 2 years and 2 months for females.

(viii) *Revenue and Expenditure, 1922.* The revenue of Government asylums is small in comparison with their cost, and consists chiefly of patients' fees. The proportion of expenditure borne by the State amounts to about 87 per cent.

HOSPITALS (GOVERNMENT) FOR THE INSANE.—FINANCES, 1922.

Particulars.	N.S.W. (a)	Victoria. (a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue (Exclusive of Government Grants)—							
Fees of Patients	69,614	34,164	21,354	14,014	9,032	6,503	154,681
Other	2,412	4,552	1,189	653	5,582	1,346	15,714
Total	72,026	38,716	22,543	14,667	14,594	7,849	170,395
Expenditure—							
Salaries	284,106	190,395	110,174	35,321	50,469	24,768	695,233
Maintenance	212,779	15,540	65,434	41,227	37,409	22,659	608,674
Buildings .. .. .	..	18,881	8,296	15,374		374	
Other	28,549	5,352	800	..		..
Total	525,434	366,168	184,704	91,922	87,878	47,801	1,303,907

(a) Year ended 30th June, 1923.

6. *Protection of Aborigines.*—For the protection of the aboriginal Australian race there are institutions, under the supervision of Aborigines Boards, where the blacks are housed and encouraged to work, the children receiving elementary education. The work is usually carried on at mission stations, but many of the natives are nomadic, and receive food and clothing when they call, whilst others but rarely come under the notice of the Boards. The native race is extinct in Tasmania. The approximate annual expenditure on maintenance, etc., is—New South Wales, £35,000; Victoria, £4,000; Queensland, £40,000; South Australia, £25,000; Western Australia, £35,000; Northern Territory, £8,000; total for Australia, £147,000. In 1922 in New South Wales

the average number receiving monthly aid was 1,957; in Victoria there were 325 under the care of the Aborigines Protection Board; in Queensland, at the end of 1922, there were 3,437 aborigines at the mission stations; in South Australia, in 1922, there were 764 inmates at mission stations, while in Western Australia the aborigines and half-castes in the native institutions in the year 1922-23 numbered 490. At the mission stations in the Northern Territory about 300 were in residence, but casual assistance and medical attendance are given to large numbers of natives every year.

7. **Royal Life Saving Society.**—In each of the State capitals, "centres" of the Royal Life Saving Society have been established. Life preservation is the object of the Society, and its immediate aims are (a) educative and (b) remedial. The encouragement of swimming and life-saving in schools, colleges, clubs, etc., will bring about a more widespread knowledge of these necessary matters and there is increasing provision of life-belts, reels, lines, and other first-aid appliances on ocean beaches, wharves, and other suitable places. Upwards of 3,000 certificates of proficiency in various grades are issued annually after examination.

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

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

10. **Total Expenditure on Charities.**—The table below gives the total expenditure on charities (excluding Old-age pensions) in each of the last five years, the figures for the various States being compiled, as far as possible, on the same basis:—

TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON CHARITIES, 1918 TO 1922.

State or Territory.	1918.	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.
	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	1,596,239	1,856,751	2,391,057	2,540,606	2,532,039
Victoria	972,141	1,042,295	1,230,566	1,459,163	1,521,278
Queensland	646,384	796,688	933,547	1,017,817	975,028
South Australia	305,580	348,268	416,303	520,879	551,596
Western Australia	348,119	398,901	451,738	475,802	457,661
Tasmania	137,654	161,764	199,206	206,513	216,580
Northern Territory	4,734	6,830	6,178	6,265	5,585
Total	4,010,851	4,611,497	5,628,595	6,227,045	6,259,767

The figures include expenditure from Government and private sources of all institutions and societies affording relief, for which particulars are available.