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CHAPTER XI.

PUBLIC BENEVOLENCE.

§ 1. Introductory.

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. Owing to differences in the method and date of collection and tabulation it is impossible to bring statistics of charitable institutions to a common year.

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 7 of Chapter VIII. "Finance."

From time to time relief funds have been organized for famine-stricken countries in various parts of the world, or for places where plagues, flood, fire, or earthquake have 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. *General 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 infectious diseases, consumptives, women, children, incurables, etc.

The particulars given herein refer to general hospitals at the latest available date, and include all institutions affording general hospital relief.

(ii) *Principal Hospitals in each State.* In previous issues of the Official Year Book (See No. 22, pp. 481-2) particulars respecting staff, accommodation, etc., of each of the principal hospitals were given, but owing to considerations of space, are not included in this issue.

(iii) *Number, Staff, and Accommodation, 1928.* Details regarding the number of hospitals, staffs, and accommodation for the year 1928, or nearest available year, are given in the appended table :—

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—NUMBER, STAFFS, AND ACCOMMODATION, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter. (a)	Total.
Number of Hospitals—								
Government	4	..	1	11	26	3	3	48
Other	161	55	109	36	48	13	2	424
Total	165	55	110	47	74	16	5	472
Medical Staff—								
Males	1,376	(b) 116	301 15	177 5	50 ..	29 ..	1 ..	2,070
Females								
Total	1,376	(b) 116	316	182	50	29	1	2,070
Nursing Staff and Attendants—								
Males	112	2,175	378 2,208	102 958	124 871	2 255	2 12	10,543
Females	3,344							
Total	3,456	2,175	2,586	1,060	995	257	14	10,543
Accommodation—								
Number of dormitories, wards, etc.	1,266	462	707	412	320	148	10	3,325
Capacity, in cubic feet	9,745,220	5,382,538	4,763,533	2,432,033	2,106,011	1,026,014	31,600	25,486,949
Number of beds, etc. . .	8,525	4,160	4,169	1,907	2,025	769	83	21,638
Cubic feet to each bed	1,143	1,204	1,143	1,275	1,040	1,334	381	1,178

(a) Previous year's figures.

(b) Salaried staff only.

(iv) *Patients Treated.* The table hereunder furnishes particulars respecting patients treated. In addition to the facilities 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 1,336 out-door beds in New South Wales, 58 in Queensland, 169 in South Australia, 45 in Western Australia, 61 in Tasmania, and 42 in the Northern Territory. These figures are not included in the totals given in the table above.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—PATIENTS TREATED, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter. (a)	Total.
Indoor Relief—Distinct Persons Treated:								
Males	75,112	27,257	37,048	12,484	14,858	6,716	269	173,744
Females	73,349	21,013	25,677	12,264	12,269	7,191	123	151,886
Total	148,461	48,270	62,725	24,748	27,127	13,907	392	325,630
Inmates at beginning of year—								
Males	3,332	1,613	1,655	604	777	259	23	8,263
Females	3,059	1,197	1,099	501	533	289	5	6,683
Total	6,391	2,810	2,754	1,105	1,310	548	28	14,946

(a) Previous year's figures.

(b) Total cases.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—PATIENTS TREATED, 1928—*continued.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter. (d)	Total.
Admissions and Re-admissions during year—								
Males	71,780	25,644	35,393	12,085	14,031	6,457	246	165,686
Females	70,290	19,816	24,578	11,977	11,736	6,902	118	145,417
Total	142,070	45,460	59,971	24,062	25,817	13,359	364	311,103
Discharges—								
Recovered :								
Males	54,279	22,851	32,264	5,869	6,144	5,846	219	127,472
Females	56,792	18,004	22,766	7,255	6,285	6,380	101	117,583
Total	111,071	f 40,855	f 55,030	13,124	12,429	f 12,226	320	245,055
Relieved :								
Males	10,798	..	..	4,267	6,547	..	..	21,612
Females	8,595	..	..	3,360	4,693	..	..	16,648
Total	19,393	i	†	7,627	11,240	‡	..	38,260
Unrelieved or Incurable :								
Males	2,210	66	724	673	407	227	..	4,307
Females	2,009	34	531	600	289	277	..	3,740
Total	4,219	e 100	1,255	1,273	696	504	..	8,047
Not stated or Indefinite :								
Males .. ..	..	401	259	291	..	11	..	962
Females .. ..	..	365	195	128	..	7	..	695
Total .. ..	..	g 766	h 454	419	..	18	..	1,657
Deaths—								
Males	4,304	2,299	1,967	928	975	360	19	10,852
Females	2,771	1,359	984	571	475	247	6	6,413
Total	7,075	3,658	2,951	1,499	1,450	607	25	17,265
Inmates at end of year—								
Males	3,521	1,640	1,834	661	785	272	31	8,744
Females	3,182	1,251	1,201	564	527	280	16	7,021
Total!	6,703	2,891	3,035	1,225	1,312	552	47	15,765
Average Daily Number Resident—								
Males	c	c	c	648	c	293	29	c
Females	c	c	c	584	c	321	17	c
Total	7,381	2,863	2,925	1,232	1,309	614	46	16,370

(c) Not available. (d) Previous year's figures. (e) Incurable only.
 (f) Including relieved. (g) Includes unrelieved. (h) Removed to other institutions.
 (i) Included in recovered.

(v) *Summary for Five Years, 1924 to 1928.* 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, 1924 TO 1928.

Particulars.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Number of institutions ..	435	450	458	470	472
Number of beds ..	19,986	20,718	20,784	21,657	21,638
Admissions during year ..	237,846	251,379	274,577	287,662	311,103
Indoor patients treated ..	249,786	264,311	287,582	301,849	325,630
Deaths ..	14,784	15,125	15,912	16,287	17,265
Expenditure ..	£ 2,800,518	3,090,546	3,404,622	3,656,890	3,862,048

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 700,000.

(vi) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure for the year 1928 were as follows :—

GENERAL HOSPITALS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land. (a)	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	N. Ter. (b)	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue—								
Fees of patients, etc.	261,667	96,351	152,405	71,664	86,446	38,308	700	707,541
Government grants	853,984	149,656	286,208	226,003	129,086	54,675	5,693	1,705,305
Other ..	634,291	384,453	286,303	72,778	58,934	11,043	..	1,447,802
Total ..	1,749,942	630,460	724,916	370,445	274,466	104,026	6,393	3,860,648
Expenditure—								
Salaries and Main- tenance ..	1,226,181	485,097	646,258	258,708	256,657	72,306	4,733	2,949,940
Buildings ..	454,873	78,963	24,282	99,126	10,491	5,698	960	674,393
Other ..	137,847	20,595	28,420	14,409	12,185	24,259	..	237,715
Total ..	1,818,901	584,655	698,960	372,243	279,333	102,263	5,693	3,862,048

(a) Includes also Maternity Hospitals.

(b) Previous year's figures.

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 several of the hospitals were also benevolent asylums, a separation was effected and asylum patients were transferred to appropriate institutions. In South Australia, the Destitute Asylum includes lying-in and children's departments.

(ii) *Principal Institutions.* Particulars respecting the accommodation and the numbers of inmates of the principal institutions were published in previous issues of the Official Year Book (See No. 22, p. 485), but owing to considerations of space cannot be repeated herein.

(iii) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Details regarding revenue and expenditure for the year 1928 are given in the following table:—

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue—							
Government aid ..	152,648	35,397	58,117	13,008	13,677	11,548	284,395
Municipal aid ..	..	868	..	..	..	..	868
Public subs., legacies, etc.	1,679	16,806	310	3,878	..	..	22,673
Fees ..	19,840	22,973	1,519	16,208	14,815	4,803	80,158
Other ..	4,610	7,208	3,512	1,018	..	2,058	18,406
Total ..	178,777	83,252	63,458	34,112	28,492	18,409	406,500
Expenditure—							
Buildings ..	4,065	8,719	296	5,017	..	492	18,589
Maintenance ..	172,977	66,574	59,070	28,470	28,492	13,130	368,713
Other ..	6,456	5,414	3,412	377	..	4,787	20,446
Total ..	183,498	80,707	62,778	33,864	28,492	18,409	407,748

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 1928 was approximately £220,000.

(ii) *Principal Institutions.* Particulars concerning the principal institutions in each State were published in preceding Year Books (See No. 22, p. 486), but considerations of space prevent their repetition herein.

(iii) *Transactions of State Departments.* The following table summarizes the transactions in 1928 of State Departments for the relief of neglected children:—

STATE RELIEF OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN.—SUMMARY, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Number of children in institutions, boarded out, or on probation—							
Males	3,071	4,046	1,372	681	504	332	10,006
Females	2,602	3,450	992	481	387	253	8,165
Total	5,673	7,496	2,364	1,162	891	585	18,171
Number of children boarded out with their own mothers and female relatives not included in above figures—							
Males	10,125	9,904	2,864	152	..	..	25,873
Females			2,715	113	..	..
Total	10,125	9,904	5,579	265	..	..	25,873
Total children under State control	15,798	17,400	7,943	1,427	891	585	44,044
Gross cost to State of children's relief	£ 543,626	£ 433,838	£ 200,536	£ 54,921	£ 26,963	£ 16,130	£ 1,276,064
Receipts from parents' contributions, etc.	23,720	16,476	12,198	2,289	5,778	1,277	61,738
Net cost	519,906	417,362	188,338	52,632	21,185	14,853	1,214,326

4. *Lepers.*—Isolation hospitals for the treatment of lepers have been established in New South Wales (Little Bay); Queensland (Peel Island, near Brisbane); Western Australia (near Cossack); and the Northern Territory (near Darwin). At the end of 1929 there were 20 cases in residence at Little Bay, 64 at Peel Island, 16 in Western Australia and 23 in North Australia. During the year 1929 a total of 16 cases of leprosy was reported in Australia, of which 6 were recorded in Queensland, 1 in New South Wales, 4 in Western Australia, and 5 in North Australia. In 1928 there were 7 deaths from this disease, and in 1929 the number of deaths recorded was 4, 1 in New South Wales, 2 in Queensland and 1 in Western Australia.

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., 1928.* Particulars regarding the number of institutions, medical and nursing staff, and accommodation are given in the appended table for the year 1928 :—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—NUMBER, STAFFS, ACCOMMODATION, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Number of institutions—							
Government	11	8	3	1	4	1	28
Private	3	(b) 4	..	..	1	..	8
Total	14	12	3	1	5	1	36
Medical Staff—							
Males	26	28	6	4	4	3	71
Females	2	..	1	..	..	..	3
Total	28	28	7	4	4	3	74
Nursing Staff and Attendants—							
Males	839	674	273	93	132	67	2,078
Females	775	647	210	85	82	74	1,873
Total	1,614	1,321	483	178	214	141	3,951
Accommodation—							
Number of dormitories ..	(a)	1,351	584	511	44	419	(a)
Capacity, in cubic feet ..	(a)	4,081,776	1,993,452	900,423	714,714	896,680	(a)
Number of beds	7,486	5,818	2,854	1,375	1,186	748	19,467
Cubic feet to each bed ..	(a)	702	698	655	603	1,199	(a)

(a) Not available.
not available.

(b) Cases at the end of the year numbered 86; other particulars

(iii) *Patients, 1928.* Information regarding patients treated, deaths, etc., for the year 1928 is given in the table hereunder :—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—PATIENTS, DEATHS, ETC., 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic. (a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Admissions and re-admissions during year—							
Males	905	483	295	153	122	37	1,995
Females	732	394	199	127	57	33	1,542
Total	1,637	877	494	280	179	70	3,537
Discharges—Recovered—							
Males	296	85	132	46	35	7	601
Females	323	101	89	30	16	16	575
Total	619	186	221	76	51	23	1,176
Relieved and unrelieved—							
Males	127	47	26	30	27	13	270
Females	108	55	20	24	8	8	223
Total	235	102	46	54	35	21	493

(a) Exclusive of four private licensed houses.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—PATIENTS, DEATHS, ETC., 1928—*continued.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic. (a)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Abscnders not retaken—							
Males	9	6	..	1	..	..	16
Females .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	9	6	..	1	..	..	16
Deaths—							
Males	335	248	138	51	50	23	845
Females	233	194	72	54	20	11	584
Total	568	442	210	105	70	34	1,429
Number of patients on books at end of year—							
Males	5,011	3,150	1,877	745	816	304	11,903
Females	4,093	3,351	1,155	605	413	311	9,928
Total	9,104	6,501	3,032	1,350	1,229	615	21,831
Average daily number resident—							
Males	4,758	2,694	1,875	735	813	305	11,180
Females	3,793	2,930	1,105	591	383	310	9,112
Total	8,551	5,624	2,980	1,326	1,196	615	20,292
Number of patients on books at end of year per 1,000 of population—							
Males	4.02	3.60	3.87	2.49	3.71	2.83	3.67
Females	3.41	3.78	2.68	2.16	2.22	2.85	3.21
Persons	3.72	3.69	3.31	2.33	3.03	2.84	3.45
Average number of patients resident in hospitals for insane per 1,000 of mean population—							
Males	3.85	3.09	3.90	2.46	3.76	2.90	3.48
Females	3.19	3.33	2.58	2.12	2.09	2.90	2.97
Persons	3.53	3.21	3.28	2.30	2.99	2.90	3.23

(a) Exclusive of four 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, 1924 to 1928.* The table hereunder gives a summary for hospitals for the insane in Australia for each of the five years 1924 to 1928. Licensed houses are included in the number of institutions for Victoria, and in all particulars save expenditure for New South Wales. The figures are exclusive of reception houses and observation wards in gaols. In the case of New South Wales the expenditure figures include cost of Broken Hill patients treated in South Australian hospitals:—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1924 TO 1928.

Particulars.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Number of institutions	35	36	34	34	36
Number of beds	18,387	18,797	18,885	19,474	19,467
Admissions	3,325	3,441	3,452	3,466	3,537
Discharged as recovered, relieved, etc.	1,638	1,613	1,592	1,576	1,669
Deaths	1,413	1,416	1,459	1,433	1,429
Expenditure	£ 1,494,025	1,649,626	1,629,242	1,666,061	1,706,259

(v) *Number of Insane, 1924 to 1928.* 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, 1924 TO 1928.

State.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
NUMBER.					
New South Wales	8,231	8,397	8,570	8,898	9,104
Victoria	6,096	6,192	6,329	6,360	6,501
Queensland	2,983	2,983	3,000	3,017	3,032
South Australia	1,248	1,302	1,282	1,306	1,350
Western Australia	1,047	1,088	1,164	1,188	1,229
Tasmania	618	603	615	623	615
Australia	20,223	20,565	20,960	21,392	21,831
PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.					
New South Wales	3.65	3.65	3.64	3.71	3.72
Victoria	3.68	3.67	3.70	3.65	3.69
Queensland	3.57	3.46	3.40	3.36	3.31
South Australia	2.30	2.36	2.26	2.27	2.33
Western Australia	2.87	2.92	3.07	3.03	3.03
Tasmania	2.84	2.78	2.86	2.89	2.84
Australia	3.44	3.43	3.43	3.43	3.45

For the period embraced in the tables Victoria and New South Wales show the highest rate of insanity, roughly 1 in 270 persons. It is stated that this is chiefly owing to the proportionately greater number of the aged in those States. On the other hand, in South Australia a considerably lower insanity rate has prevailed, averaging about 1 in 435, Tasmania being next with an average of about 1 in 350.

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 1924 to 1928 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 11 to one in 15.

INSANITY.—PERCENTAGES OF CAUSES, AUSTRALIA, 1924 TO 1928.

Causes, Previous History, etc.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Domestic trouble, adverse circumstances, mental anxiety ..	13.1	15.0	11.6	9.0	9.6
Intemperance in drink ..	8.0	8.4	9.1	6.8	8.4
Hereditary influence, ascertained; congenital defect, ascertained	24.6	22.8	18.5	26.7	22.9
Pregnancy, lactation, parturition and puerperal state, uterine and ovarian disorders, puberty, change of life ..	8.4	7.1	7.1	7.6	6.5
Previous attacks ..	12.9	11.4	12.5	12.4	13.1
Accident, including sunstroke ..	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.8	1.2
Old age ..	10.8	10.1	10.2	12.3	12.4
Venereal disease ..	5.5	5.8	6.1	6.3	5.2
Other causes ascertained ..	15.4	18.2	23.9	18.1	20.7
All ascertained causes ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(vii) *Length of Residence in Hospital.* Information concerning the length of residence of persons who died or were discharged is given in previous Year Books (See No. 22, p. 491), but owing to considerations of space, cannot be included in this issue.

(viii) *Revenue and Expenditure, 1928.* 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 85 per cent.

HOSPITALS (GOVERNMENT) FOR THE INSANE.—FINANCES, 1928.

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue (Exclusive of Government Grants)—							
Fees of Patients	108,774	61,217	29,200	17,987	14,813	7,400	239,391
Other	3,093	7,447	737	1,152	4,478	471	17,378
Total	111,867	68,664	29,937	19,139	19,291	7,871	256,769
Expenditure—							
Salaries	422,406	283,768	123,321	46,192	60,000	34,152	969,839
Maintenance	249,529	178,503	94,297	45,537	37,002	21,485	626,853
Buildings		45,737	21,406	2,187			69,330
Other	26,564	6,361		1,032	4,366	2,414	40,737
Total	698,499	514,369	239,024	94,948	101,368	58,051	1,706,259

6. *Care of the Feeble-minded.*—An account of the treatment of the feeble-minded, supplied by the Public Health Department of Tasmania, appeared in Official Year Book No. 19, pp. 477 and 478. Considerations of space, however, preclude its repetition in the present volume.

7. *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 expenditure from Consolidated Revenue in 1928–29 was, New South Wales, £37,970; Victoria, £8,758; Queensland, £63,898; South Australia, £22,767; Western Australia, £31,523; Northern Territory, £10,824; total for Australia, £175,740. In New South Wales the number of aboriginals living on reserves in 1928 was 2,276. At the 30th June, 1928, there were 54 full-bloods and 246 three-quarter and half-castes under the care of the Aborigines Protection Board at the chief stations in Victoria. In Queensland in 1927–28 there were 4,195 aborigines permanently resident at the various stations. At the 30th June, 1929, there were 785 inmates, of whom 123 were full-bloods, at mission stations in South Australia, and in Western Australia the aborigines and half-castes supported at similar institutions in the year 1928–29 numbered approximately 700, while an average of 1,403 natives were rationed each month by the Aborigines Department. At the mission stations in the Northern Territory approximately 1,450 full-bloods and 200 half-castes were in residence, but casual assistance and medical attention are given to large numbers of natives every year.

8. *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.

9. **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.

10. **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 the 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.

11. **Total Expenditure on Charities.**—The table below gives the total expenditure on charities in each of the last five years, the figures for the various States being compiled, as far as possible, on the same basis. For the reason given in § 1. 1. the cost of old-age and invalid pensions and of maternity allowances is not included :—

TOTAL EXPENDITURE ON CHARITIES, 1924 TO 1928.

State or Territory.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.
	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	2,941,515	3,230,625	3,452,596	3,684,996	3,994,265
Victoria	1,653,974	1,944,306	2,064,029	2,058,064	2,234,912.
Queensland	991,753	1,145,535	1,190,863	1,230,830	1,230,506
South Australia	621,315	679,088	766,513	806,325	880,514
Western Australia	508,809	534,522	551,616	575,133	635,778
Tasmania	228,246	237,834	235,169	245,582	261,286
Total	6,945,612	7,771,910	8,260,785	8,600,930	9,237,261

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