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CHAPTER X.

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. In general, there is considerable want of harmony in the statistical information available for the different States.

No poor-rate is levied in Australia. Reference to old-age pensions, invalid pensions, and maternity allowances, which are provided by the Commonwealth, will be found in the Chapter "Public Finance" herein.

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 was estimated to exceed £12,500,000 sterling.

§ 2. The Larger Charities of Australia.

1. **Public Hospitals (other than Hospitals for the Insane).**—(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 public hospitals at the latest available date, and include all, other than private, institutions affording hospital relief, whether general or special, with the exception of the hospitals for the insane. It is considered that the extension of the scope of these statistics to embrace both general and special institutions will afford a better comparison as between the various States than the statistics previously issued relating to general hospitals only. The particulars for New South Wales in the following tables relate to hospitals operating under The Public Hospitals Act.

(ii) *Principal Hospitals in each State.* In earlier 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.

(iii) *Number, Staff, and Accommodation, 1931.* Details regarding the number of hospitals, staffs, and accommodation for the year 1931, or nearest available year, are given in the appended table:—

PUBLIC HOSPITALS.—NUMBER, STAFFS, AND ACCOMMODATION, 1931. (a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust. (b)	Tas.	Total.
Number of Hospitals—							
Government	168	72	115	111	186	316	513
Other							
Total	168	72	116	51	87	19	513
Medical Staff—							
Honorary	1,324	807	233	161	50	39	3,158
Salaried							
Total	1,474	991	376	206	50	61	3,158
Nursing Staff	3,165	2,129	1,814	724	1,164	328	9,324
Accommodation—							
Number of beds and cots	9,209	6,542	4,869	2,082	2,520	1,300	26,522

(a) The figures relate to the years ended as follows:—New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia—30th June, 1932; South Australia and Tasmania—31st December, 1931; Victoria—30th June, 1931. (b) Exclusive of particulars of two Lying-in Homes and two Convalescent Homes conducted for charitable purposes, outside Government control, for which the financial data is included in the table on page 303.

(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 836 out-door beds in Queensland and 216 in South Australia. These figures are not included in the totals given in the table above.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS.—PATIENTS TREATED, 1931.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust. (b)	Tas.	Total.
Indoor Relief—Inmates at beginning of year—							
Males	(c)	2,460	1,925	621	795	349	(c)
Females	(c)	2,378	1,658	599	596	304	(c)
Total	6,304	4,838	3,583	1,220	1,391	713	18,049
Admissions and Re-admissions during year—							
Males	(c)	31,879	39,030	11,982	16,752	6,440	(c)
Females	(c)	39,698	35,620	13,303	15,293	7,988	(c)
Total	135,281	71,577	74,650	25,285	32,045	14,428	353,266
Discharges—							
Males	(c)	29,432	37,127	11,051	15,690	6,164	(c)
Females	(c)	37,911	34,600	12,649	14,715	7,729	(c)
Total	d 135,291	67,343	71,727	23,700	30,405	13,893	342,359
Deaths—							
Males	(c)	2,325	1,972	886	987	321	(e) 6,491
Females	(c)	1,652	1,024	571	500	244	(e) 3,991
Total	(c)	3,977	2,996	1,457	1,487	565	(e) 10,482
Inmates at end of year—							
Males	(c)	2,582	1,856	666	870	308	(c)
Females	(c)	2,513	1,654	682	674	375	(c)
Total	6,294	5,095	3,510	1,348	1,544	683	18,474
Average Daily Number Resident—							
Males	(c)	(c)	(c)	695	(c)	328	(c)
Females	(c)	(c)	(c)	678	(c)	378	(c)
Total	6,525	4,977	3,400	1,373	1,455	706	18,436

(a) See footnote (a) to previous table. (b) See footnote (b) to previous table. (c) Not available. (d) Including deaths. (e) Exclusive of New South Wales.

(v) *Revenue and Expenditure.* The revenue and expenditure for the year 1931 were as follow :—

PUBLIC HOSPITALS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1931.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust. (b)	Tas.	Total.
Revenue—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid ..	514,661	313,332	260,286	178,117	141,510	50,801	1,458,707
Municipal Aid ..	..	59,387	106,677	23,435	1,108	7,462	198,069
Public Subscriptions, Legacies, etc. ..	342,031	280,530	88,671	16,255	17,121	16,010	760,618
Fees ..	274,260	159,493	168,445	60,509	79,770	38,503	780,980
Other ..	107,732	84,479	17,343	8,661	17,353	5,443	241,011
Total ..	1,238,684	897,221	641,422	286,977	256,862	118,219	3,439,385
Expenditure—							
Salaries and Wages	617,676	(c)	295,868	127,742	121,849	56,417	(e)1,219,552
Upkeep and Repair of Buildings and Grounds ..	31,701	(c)	6,211	(c)	7,509	2,404	(e) 47,825
All Other ..	528,291	(c)	346,438	(c)	122,833	56,292	(e)1,053,854
Capital (d) ..	69,570	(c)	2,925	(c)	(c)	1,572	(e) 74,067
Total ..	1,247,238	972,026	651,442	284,832	252,191	116,685	3,524,414

(a) See note (a) to table on page 302. (b) See note (b) to table on page 302. (c) Not available. (d) Includes such items as Purchases of Land, Cost of New Buildings and Additions to Buildings. (e) Incomplete.

(vi) *Summary for Five Years, 1927 to 1931.* 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. The figures for the years 1927 to 1929 relate mainly to general hospitals, while those for 1930 and 1931 relate to both general and special hospitals. It should be noted that the statistics for the States cannot be brought to a common year, and consequently the following particulars relate to a combination of calendar and financial years.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS.—SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

Particulars.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Number of institutions ..	470	472	480	508	513
Number of beds ..	21,657	21,638	22,629	25,181	26,522
Admissions during year ..	287,662	311,103	319,754	353,190	353,266
Total indoor cases treated ..	302,296	326,049	335,530	370,743	371,315
Deaths ..	16,287	17,265	18,004	18,361	(a) 10,482
Expenditure ..	£ 3,656,890	3,862,048	4,064,654	4,318,212	3,524,414

(a) Exclusive of New South Wales.

In addition to those admitted to the institutions, there are large numbers of out-patients. So far as the returns show there were 467,738 cases treated in New South Wales, 175,250 in Victoria and 31,200 in Tasmania.

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, due partly to the fact that the general age of the community has advanced and partly to 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. These 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 earlier issues of the Official Year Book (See No. 22, p. 485).

(iii) *Revenue and Expenditure.* Details regarding revenue and expenditure for the year 1931 are given in the following table :—

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS.—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1931.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue—							
Government Aid ..	130,765	46,110	27,580	9,891	4,533	10,311	229,190
Municipal Aid ..	..	893	3	..	..	..	896
Public Subs., Legacies, etc. ..	1,868	16,900	452	2,040	..	..	21,260
Fees ..	38,511	36,363	..	13,347	15,990	3,915	108,126
Other ..	4,032	16,419	25,940	565	298	1,498	48,752
Total ..	175,176	116,685	53,975	25,843	20,821	15,724	408,224
Expenditure—							
Salaries and Wages ..	77,575	(b)	53,941	6,780	9,494	4,607	c 152,397
Upkeep and Repair of Buildings ..	6,542	(b)	237	783	..	40	c 7,602
All Other ..	93,244	(b)	116	20,272	11,327	11,077	c 136,036
Total ..	177,361	106,758	54,294	27,835	20,821	15,724	402,793

(a) The figures relate to the years ended as follows:—New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania—31st December, 1931; Victoria—30th June, 1931; and Queensland and Western Australia—30th June, 1932. (b) Not available. (c) Exclusive of Victoria.

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 1931 was approximately £216,000.

(ii) *Principal Institutions.* Particulars concerning the principal institutions in each State were published in earlier Year Books (See No. 22, p. 486).

(iii) *Transactions of State Departments.* The following table summarizes the transactions in 1931 of State Departments for the relief of neglected children :—

STATE RELIEF OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN.—SUMMARY, 1931.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Number of children in institutions, boarded out, or on probation—							
Males	2,612	3,899	859	589	507	365	8,831
Females	2,229	2,910	630	414	427	248	6,858
Total	4,841	6,809	1,489	1,003	934	613	15,689
Number of children boarded out with their own mothers and female relatives—not included in above figures—							
Males	11,174	10,178	2,967	140	27	..	} 27,477
Females .. ..								2,902	68	21	..
Total	11,174	10,178	5,869	208	48	..	27,477
Total children under State control	16,015	16,987	7,358	1,211	982	613	43,166
Gross cost of children's relief	£ 517,774	£ 392,201	£ 172,323	£ 47,598	£ 28,830	£ 15,895	£ 1,174,621
Receipts from parents' contributions, etc. ..	17,227	8,506	7,682	3,687	3,000	248	40,350
Net cost to State..	500,547	383,695	164,641	43,911	25,830	15,647	1,134,271

(a) The figures relate to the years ended as follows :—New South Wales—31st December, 1932 ; Victoria—31st December, 1931 ; other States—30th June, 1932.

4. **Leper Hospitals.**—Isolation hospitals for the treatment of lepers have been established in New South Wales (Little Bay) ; Queensland (Peel Island, near Brisbane) ; and the Northern Territory (near Darwin). In October, 1931, the 17 inmates of the hospital previously established near Cossack in Western Australia, were transferred to Darwin. At the end of 1932 there were 19 cases in residence at Little Bay, 60 at Peel Island, and 54 in the Northern Territory. During the year 1932 a total of 23 cases of leprosy was reported in Australia, of which 1 was recorded in New South Wales, 17 in Queensland, and 5 in Western Australia. In 1931 there were 6 deaths from this disease, and in 1932 the number of deaths recorded was 7, 6 in Queensland and 1 in the Northern Territory.

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., 1931.* Particulars regarding the number of institutions, medical and nursing staff, and accommodation are given in the appended table for the year 1931 :—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—NUMBER, STAFFS, ACCOMMODATION, 1931.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Number of Institutions ..	13	(b) 12	3	2	5	1	36
Medical Staff—							
Males	31	26	6	6	5	2	76
Females	4	..	1	..	..	..	5
Total	35	26	7	6	5	2	81
Nursing Staff and Attendants—							
Males	874	646	262	110	120	64	2,076
Females	837	638	202	84	124	69	1,954
Total	1,711	1,284	464	194	244	133	4,030
Accommodation—							
Number of beds and cots	9,741	6,089	2,715	1,488	1,759	748	22,540

(a) The figures relate to years ended as follows :—New South Wales, Queensland and Tasmania—30th June, 1932 ; other States—31st December, 1931. (b) Includes four licensed private houses, in which cases at the end of the year numbered 94 ; other particulars not available.

(iii) *Patients, 1931.* Information regarding patients treated, deaths, etc., for the year 1931 is given in the table hereunder :—

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—PATIENTS, DEATHS, ETC., 1931.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic. (b)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Number of distinct persons treated during year (c)—							
Males	6,138	3,659	(d)	913	949	372	12,031
Females	5,019	3,846	(d)	741	468	352	10,426
Total	11,157	7,505	(d)	1,654	1,417	724	22,457
Number of patients on books at beginning of year—							
Males	5,325	3,235	1,906	775	855	326	12,422
Females	4,345	3,435	1,202	629	420	309	10,340
Total	9,670	6,670	3,108	1,404	1,275	635	22,762
Admissions and re-admissions exclusive of absconders retaken (c)—							
Males	813	424	314	138	94	46	1,829
Females	674	411	197	112	48	43	1,485
Total	1,487	835	511	250	142	89	3,314
Discharges (including absconders not retaken)—							
Males	329	164	143	60	48	22	766
Females	348	172	108	64	17	22	731
Total	677	336	251	124	65	44	1,497

(a) See footnote (a) to previous table.

(b) Exclusive of four licensed private houses.

(c) Exclusive of transfers.

(d) Not available.

HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.—PATIENTS, DEATHS, ETC., 1931(a)—*continued.*

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic. (b)	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Deaths—							
Males	362	260	141	78	55	17	913
Females	224	205	65	57	22	17	590
Total	586	465	206	135	77	34	1,503
Number of patients on books at end of year—							
Males	5,447	3,235	1,936	775	846	333	12,572
Females	4,447	3,469	1,226	620	429	313	10,504
Total	9,894	6,704	3,162	1,395	1,275	646	23,076
Average daily number resident—							
Males	5,141	2,801	1,929	773	822	327	11,793
Females	4,096	3,058	1,187	631	409	313	9,694
Total	9,237	5,859	3,116	1,404	1,231	640	21,487
Number of patients on books at end of year per 1,000 of population—							
Males	4.26	3.64	3.79	2.57	3.75	3.01	3.79
Females	3.59	3.81	2.71	2.19	2.19	2.78	3.29
Persons	3.93	3.72	3.28	2.38	3.02	2.89	3.54
Average number of patients resident in hospitals for insane per 1,000 of mean population—							
Males	4.04	3.15	3.80	2.57	3.64	3.00	3.57
Females	3.32	3.37	2.64	2.23	2.10	2.82	3.05
Persons	3.68	3.26	3.25	2.41	2.93	2.91	3.31

(a) See footnote (a) to previous table.

(b) Exclusive of four licensed private 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.

(iv) *Revenue and Expenditure, 1931.* 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, 1931.(a)

Particulars.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Revenue (Exclusive of Government Grants)—							
Fees of Patients	92,307	36,527	24,473	19,237	15,732	10,029	198,305
Other	2,156	4,779	367	3,349	1,774	411	12,836
Total	94,463	41,306	24,840	22,586	17,506	10,440	211,141
Expenditure—							
Salaries and Wages	385,828	241,791	116,136	48,293	54,417	27,754	874,219
Upkeep and Repair of Buildings and Grounds .. .. .	.. .. .	5,220	1,219	3,558	1,181	481	11,659
All Other	186,442	129,869	64,158	40,089	31,015	18,936	470,509
Total	572,270	376,880	181,513	91,940	86,613	47,171	1,356,387
Expenditure per Average Daily Resident	£61/19/1	£64/6/6	£58/5/0	£65/9/8	£70/7/2	£73/14/1	£63/2/6

(a) The figures relate to years ended as follows:—South Australia—31st December, 1931; other States—30th June, 1932.

(b) Includes £3,821, covering such items as Cost of New Buildings and Additions to Buildings.

(v) *Summary for Australia, 1927 to 1931.* The table hereunder gives a summary for hospitals for the insane in Australia for each of the five years 1927 to 1931. The figures for the States cannot be brought to a common year; consequently the following particulars relate to a combination of calendar and financial years. 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.

Particulars.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Number of institutions	34	36	38	37	36
Number of beds	19,474	19,467	20,951	21,779	22,540
Admissions	3,466	3,537	3,471	3,443	3,314
Discharged as recovered, relieved, etc.	1,576	1,669	1,625	1,558	1,497
Deaths	1,433	1,429	1,451	1,297	1,503
Expenditure—Total	£ 1,666,061	1,706,259	1,721,602	1,539,003	1,356,387
„ —Per Average Daily Resident	£84/2/3	£84/1/8	£83/11/10	£72/17/8	£63/2/6

(vi) *Number of Insane, 1927 to 1931.* The proportion of insane, as well as the total number returned as under treatment, shows a continuous increase during the period covered by the table. The more rapid increase during the last two years is possibly a reflection of the financial stress of the period. 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.

State.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
NUMBER.					
New South Wales	8,898	9,104	9,377	9,670	9,894
Victoria	6,360	6,501	6,531	6,669	6,704
Queensland	3,017	3,032	3,042	3,108	3,162
South Australia	1,306	1,350	1,374	1,404	1,395
Western Australia	1,188	1,229	1,252	1,274	1,275
Tasmania	623	615	622	635	646
Australia	21,392	21,831	22,198	22,760	23,076
PER 1,000 OF POPULATION.					
New South Wales	3.71	3.72	3.78	3.87	3.93
Victoria	3.65	3.69	3.68	3.72	3.72
Queensland	3.36	3.31	3.27	3.28	3.28
South Australia	2.27	2.33	2.37	2.41	2.38
Western Australia	3.03	3.03	3.00	3.03	3.02
Tasmania	2.89	2.84	2.84	2.88	2.89
Australia	3.43	3.45	3.46	3.51	3.54

The difference between States in the number of insane persons in institutions per 1,000 of population may be due to some extent to differences in classification of the insane.

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, and an increase in the number of recorded cases, therefore, does not necessarily imply an actual increase in insanity.

(vii) *Causes of Insanity.* The general information available respecting the causes of the insanity of persons admitted to institutions is too unsatisfactory to be given in detail.

(viii) *Length of Residence in Hospital.* Information concerning the length of residence of persons who died or were discharged was given in earlier Year Books (See No. 22, p. 491).

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.

7. *Protection of Aborigines.*—For the protection of the aboriginal Australian race there are institutions, under the supervision of Aborigines Boards, where these people 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 1931-32 was, New South Wales, £53,124; Victoria, £7,153; Queensland, £41,128; South Australia, £23,000; Western Australia, £21,187 (exclusive of aboriginal cattle stations, net revenue, £2,109); Northern Territory, £7,670 (including £1,320, Government subsidy to aboriginal mission stations); total for Australia, £153,262. According to the latest census taken by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, the numbers of full-blood and half-caste aborigines living in supervised camps in each State at 30th June, 1932, were as follow:—

ABORIGINES.(a)—AUSTRALIA—30th JUNE, 1932.

Particulars.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Northern Territory.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Full-bloods ..	368	29	5,812	109	1,589	2,054	9,961
Half-castes ..	2,794	196	1,648	557	630	244	6,069

(a) Living in supervised camps. See letterpress above table.

8. *Royal Life Saving Society.*—In each of the State capitals, "centres" of the Royal Life Saving Society have been established, and in some States sub-centres have been established in the larger provincial districts. Saving of life from drowning and other forms of asphyxiation 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 10,000 certificates of proficiency in various grades are issued annually after examination throughout Australia, the numbers for the individual States for 1932 being New South Wales, 4,352; Victoria, 2,031; Queensland, 438; South Australia, 564; Western Australia, 2,253 (1930); and Tasmania, 222.

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, where the rescuer has risked his or her life; (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 300 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, 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.**—Issues of the Official Year Book, prior to No. 24, embodied statistics of expenditure on charities. The returns available, however, included a portion only of direct expenditure by Governments, and, in general, there is want of a harmony in the information available for the different States. Pending the result of further inquiry it has been decided to omit this table from the present chapter.