

Note on low rates of payments by a large proportion of patients compared to expenses. Discusses cost per head at other asylums

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The most obvious fact which presents itself in looking into this subject is the unreasonably low rate of payment made by a large proportion of the patients. Out of the present number 310 or nearly one third of the whole pay only 4/- per week, & the others, only 5/- per week. Thus 4/7 patients are maintained at a large weekly loss to the Establishment. This loss in ordinary times may be compensated by the higher payments of other patients, but in times like the present, the exp^{ts} of income from the other patients over their cost, is diminished by the increased expense of all articles of consumption. Looking beyond this temporary cause of augmented expenditure, however, it must be remembered that there has been of late a progressive increase in the general expenses attending

(See page 3. 4/11/1.)
the care & treatment of lunatic patients. And
so long as our views with regard to the spa-
ciousness & number of the patients' apartments,
the quantity & kind of their furniture, the
variety of amusements, means of instruction
& ~~employment~~ go on expanding, the expen-
diture in providing & upholding them will
proportionably increase. The cost of maintaining
the patients will never again decline to the
sum originally contemplated when the
minimum charge was fixed fifty years
ago at 4/- per week. This payment is also
much below that now made to any County
Pauper Asylum of 10/- any account has
reached us. At the large County Asylum for
the Liverpool Division of Lancashire the
charge for the first half of the ¹⁸³³ last year was
7/- per week. It was then raised to 7/- per
week for each patient belonging to its
own divisions.

(Page 2. note 1. The progress of the increase of expense⁽³⁾ may be illustrated by tracing it in the diaphanous article of Salaries & Wages. Thus the average sum paid by each patient for Salaries & Wages in the year 1809 was £. 4. 19. 0

1814	—	5. 18. 0
1827	—	7. 7. 0
1837	—	10. 11. 0
1847	—	11. 1. 0

It has ~~increased~~ increased since that time. Thus in 40 years the expense of attendance provided by the Institution for each patient ~~has~~ gradually mounting up till it has become more than double.)

For pauper patients not belonging to contributing Unions, it was 14/- per week. The following list shows the charges at some of the ^{respective Unions} County Asylums, for their own Union patients & those

Yorkshire. N. & E. Riding.	6. 8. 2	+ 9. 7. 2
West Riding.	7. 0	+ 14. 0

4/ Braubrop. County officials ^{S. D. S. D.} 10⁰ 8 + 14⁰ 0
 Bedford ^{S. D.} 9⁰ 0
 Surrey raised lately from the 9⁰ 0
 Wilts ^{S. D.} 9⁰ 4 + 13⁰ 4

These charges are made at Asylum where
 the working expenses are much reduced by the
 performance of a large portion of the domestic
 & general service by the patients themselves.



List of
 Patients