

**Sixty-eighth annual report : for the year ending December 31st, 1926 /
Royal Eastern Counties' Institution for the Mentally Defective, Colchester.**

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**The Royal Eastern Counties' Institution
for the Mentally Defective,
COLCHESTER.**

INSTITUTED 1st FEBRUARY, 1859.

UNDER THE PATRONAGE OF
HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

**SIXTY-EIGHTH
ANNUAL REPORT**

For the Year ending December 31st, 1926.

The Board beg Subscribers to bring this
Report to the notice of their friends.

OFFICES:
STATION ROAD, COLCHESTER.

Medical Superintendent	-	F. DOUGLAS TURNER, M.B.
Secretary	- - -	MAJOR ARTHUR TURNER, T.D.

APRIL, 1927.

WITH THE SECRETARY'S COMPLIMENTS.


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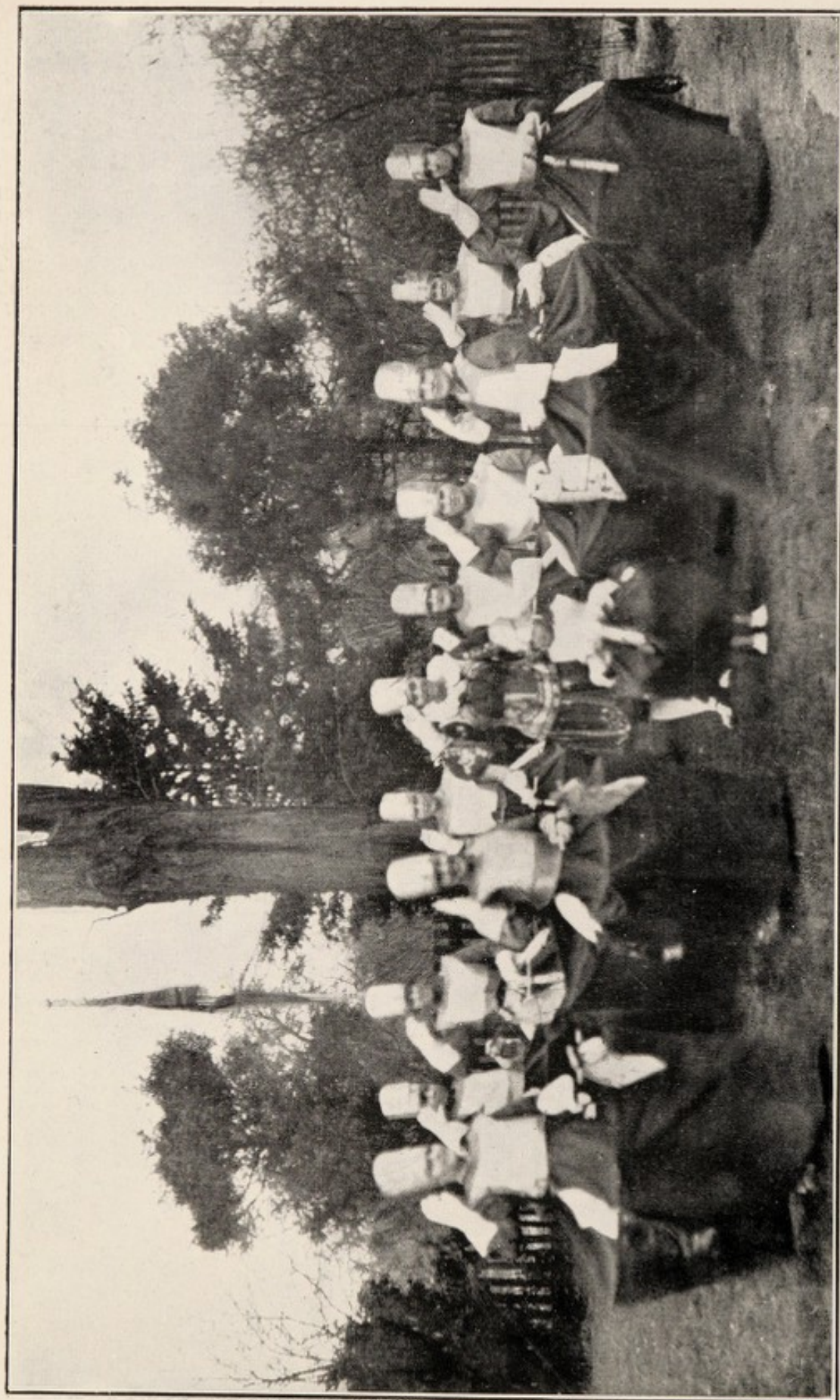


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"THE HUSSARS, THE HUSSARS."

FROM THE UPPER GIRLS' SCHOOL PLAY.

Why not buy your
BRUSHES, MATS AND BASKETS

*from us, and help our boys
and girls to help themselves?*

Why not buy your
BRUSHES, MATS AND BASKETS
from us, and help our boys
and girls to help themselves?

The Royal Eastern Counties' Institution

FOR THE MENTALLY DEFECTIVE

COLCHESTER.

Instituted February 1st, 1859.

Patron—

HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

Patroness of Ladies' Association—

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

Vice-Patroness of Ladies' Association—

HER GRACE THE DUCHESS OF GRAFTON.

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THE RIGHT HON. THE VISCOUNT CLIFDEN.
THE RIGHT HON. THE VISCOUNT HAMLEDEN.
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THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH.
THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF ELY.
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THE RIGHT HON. LORD WALSINGHAM.
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THE RIGHT HON. LORD DE SAUMAREZ.
THE RIGHT HON. LORD HENNIKER.
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THE RIGHT HON. LORD LAMBOURNE, P.C., C.V.O.
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 NORWICH, The Lady Mayoress of
 COLCHESTER, The Mayoress of

BRANDT, Mrs.
 DAKIN, Mrs.
 RUGGLES-BRISE, Miss
 THOMPSON, Miss Janet M.

Objects of the Institution.

The Royal Eastern Counties' Institution, which is entirely undenominational, was established in 1859 to care for all grades of the mentally defective belonging to the Counties of Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridge, educating and training those who are able to benefit by instruction and caring for those who are not able to learn anything. It is supported by voluntary contributions and by payments for patients, and is certified by the Board of Education, the Board of Control and the Home Office.

The main building is at Colchester and adjoining it are the Peckover Schools and Workshops, presented by the late Lord Peckover. There is also a large farm as well as separate blocks for the lower grade classes. In addition, there is a special residential school for high grade girls (Greenwood School, Halstead), similar schools for boys (East Hill House and Hillsleigh, Colchester), a special home for young women (Lexden House, Colchester), a home for five classes of adult men (Bridge Home, Witham), and the Seaside Home (Crossley House, Clacton-on-Sea), presented by Lord Somerleyton.

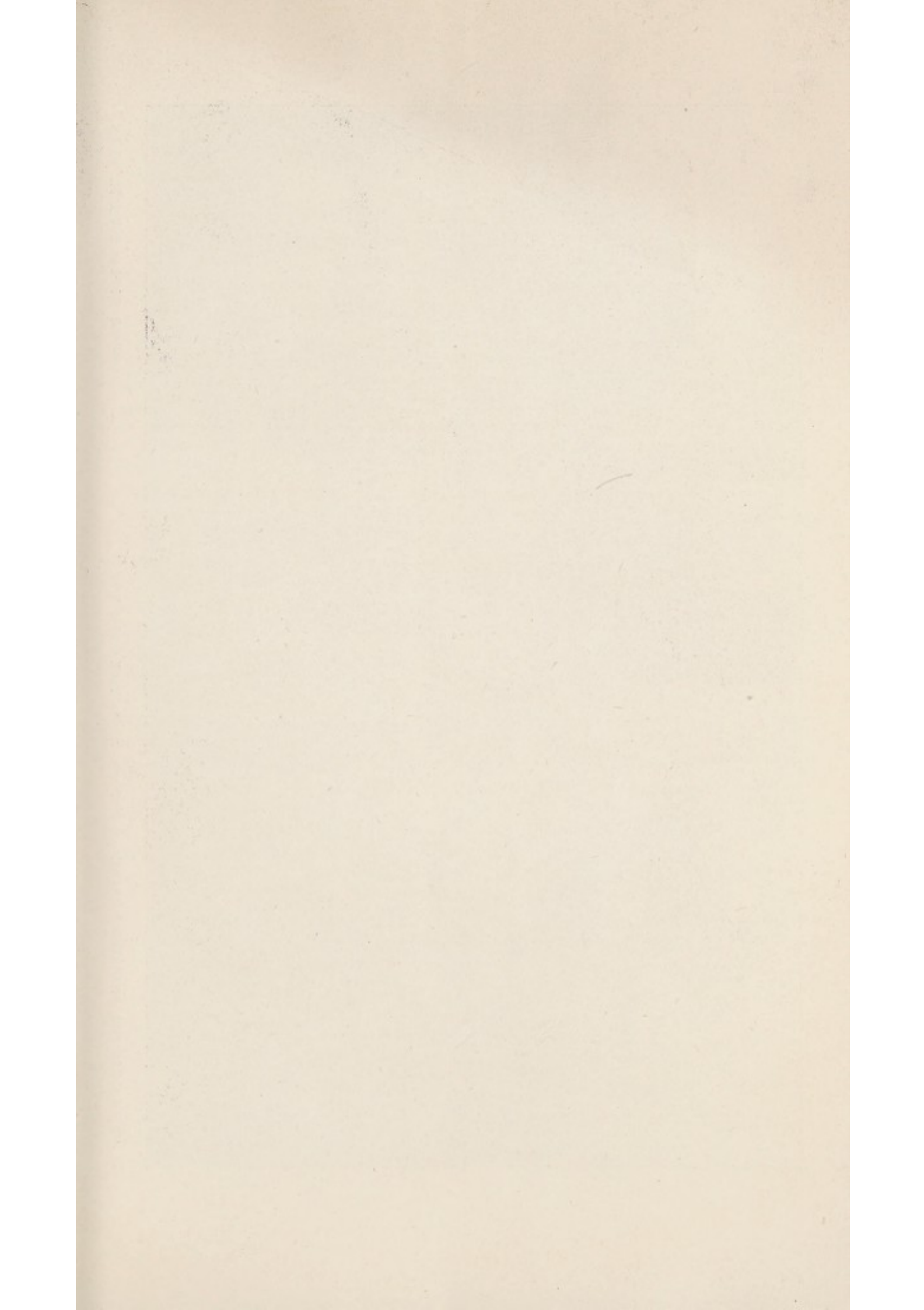
In the main Institution and its branches there is accommodation for 1120 patients.

With the object of teaching the inmates to become as self-supporting as possible, various useful trades are carried on very successfully in the Peckover Schools. All the clothing, including dresses, suits and boots, and all mattresses are made, as well as all the furniture required. A large number of mats, brushes, baskets, and articles of wood-carving are made, and orders can always be carried out. Some of the girls are employed in Laundry work, and both boys and girls are taught farm and garden work. Manual work is taught in the schools, and useful leather and other bags, and raffia baskets are made.

Those whose friends are unable to pay for their care and maintenance can be elected by the votes of subscribers, and are admitted for a period of seven years. At the end of this time they can be re-elected, and a few patients are re-elected for life. It is expected that the parents should contribute whatever they can afford towards maintenance.

The Elections occur in the Spring and Autumn and are held in the principal towns of the Eastern Counties. Donors of Five Guineas or Annual Subscribers of Half-a-Guinea are entitled to one vote at each half-yearly election, the right of voting as regards higher sums being increased in the same proportion.

As the charitable income is not sufficient to support the charitable cases already in the Institution by about £1,500 every year, the Board of Directors, of which the Earl of Stradbroke is Chairman, earnestly appeal for additional support.





"THE DUCHESS AND THE DRAGON."

THE COMPANY.

UPPER GIRLS' SCHOOL PLAY.

REPORT

Presented to the Annual General Meeting held at the Institution, Colchester, on Monday, 25th April, 1927.

The Board of Directors have much pleasure in submitting their Sixty-eighth Annual Report, and in spite of the fact that the past year has been a particularly difficult one, are glad to record that a large measure of success has attended their efforts.

One of the most encouraging features has been the continued success of the work undertaken by the Duchess of Grafton, and the members of the various Ladies' Associations. The total amount raised, viz, £4,125 14s. 8d. is not quite so much as in the previous year, but this is accounted for by the Coal Strike, and other labour troubles. The high price of coal necessarily had an effect on Collections, many of which are made up by small contributions, and the wonder is that the effect was not more serious. Such a result could only have been obtained by the most strenuous efforts on the part of all concerned, and the Board consider that the Institution is fortunate in possessing such a large number of helpers able and willing to give so much devoted service. They are particularly grateful for the valuable support received from this source, and beg to tender to the Duchess of Grafton, and to all her helpers their warmest thanks. The Ladies' Collections are of the utmost assistance in carrying on the charitable side of the work, and the Board have a keen appreciation of the value of this help.

During the year the following amounts have been received from all sources:—

	£	s.	d.
For Ordinary Purposes	66,157	10	1
For Endowment Fund	91	19	3
For Reserve Fund	2,391	1	5
For Peckover Schools Repairs Account ...	60	16	0
	£68,701	6	9

The average daily number of patients on the books was 1111, against 1066 in the previous year. The net average weekly cost was £1 0s 0d., against 19/10d. in 1925.

Ladies' Association Collections.

Amounts received.

Average number.

Weekly cost.

Church and
Chapel
Collections.

The Board have to acknowledge the following Church and Chapel Collections which have been thankfully received:—

CHURCH COLLECTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Bures Church, per Mr. F. W. M. Pickering	3	17	3
Sudbourne Church, per Rev. Hugh A. Tudor	0	15	0
Orford Church (Harvest Thanksgiving), per Rev. Hugh A. Tudor	0	10	0
	<hr/>		
	£5	2	3

LADIES' ASSOCIATION CHURCH AND CHAPEL COLLECTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
St. Mary's-at-the-Walls, Colchester (Part Collection St. George's Sunday), per Mr. Chas. Wright	8	0	0
Knapton Church, per Miss Robinson	3	14	0
North Runcton Church, per Rev. E. M. Plumptre	2	0	11
Ousden St. Peter's Church, per Mr. C. Jillings	1	19	10
Rushmere Church, per Mrs. G. H. D. Davies	1	17	1
Hoveton St. John Church, per Rev. J. H. Bailey	1	10	10½
Bawburgh Christmas Day Collection, per Miss Copland	1	5	3
Horning Church, per Miss E. M. Crowe... ..	1	3	4
High Road Congregational Church, Ilford, per Mrs. Vine... ..	1	1	0
Birdbrook Church, per Rev. Dr. Young	1	0	0½
Swafeld Church, per Miss K. Dolphin	0	18	6
Worlington Church, per Mrs. Emeny	0	10	6
Grundisburgh Chapel, per Mr. Cotton	0	10	6
Seckford Church, per Rev. J. C. Titcombe	0	10	6
Heybridge Church, per Rev. E. E. Brooke	0	10	0
Grimston Church, per Mrs. Petch	0	10	0
Sloley Church, per Mrs. J. Pigott	0	10	0
Ludham Church, per Miss F. H. Brown... ..	0	9	7
Setch Church, per Rev. E. M. Plumptre... ..	0	3	0
	<hr/>		
	£28	4	11

Special
Donations.

Much useful assistance has again been given by means of Special Donations, and the Board desire to assure the Donors of their appreciation of this help:—

SPECIAL DONATIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Worshipful Company of Grocers	50	0	0
Mrs. Goode, Cottenham (Proceeds of Fête)	40	0	0
Employees of M. Hyam Wholesale Clothing Co., Ltd.	12	12	0
The Lady Latymer	10	10	0
Mrs. Hammond	10	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Gale	10	10	0
Mr. and Mrs. Gale (Box Collection)	3	13	8
Sandringham Estate Cottage Horticultural Society	10	0	0
Mrs. Jackson	5	5	0
Bachelors' Ball Committee, Colchester	5	5	0
Essex Masters' Lodge, No. 3256	5	5	0

	£	s.	d.
Anonymous	5	5	0
Pearson Charity Football Cup Competition, Colchester ...	5	0	0
Miss Grout, In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. Grout ...	5	0	0
Beevor Charity Cup Competition, Great Yarmouth ...	5	0	0
Beevor Charity Cup Competition, Great Yarmouth ...	2	10	0
Valentine Park Lodge, No. 4413	3	3	0
"G.F.R."	2	2	0
Angel Lodge, No. 51	2	2	0
Children's Christmas Breakfast Committee, Colchester ...	1	1	0
M.S.B. (In loving memory of Queen Alexandra) ...	1	0	0
Messrs. Wright Bros. (Box Collection)	0	13	1
Messrs. Wright Bros. (Box Collection)	0	7	8
Mrs. Newstead (Box Collection)	0	10	0
Mrs. Stone (Box Collection)	0	7	8

The following Legacies are gratefully acknowledged:— Legacies.

LEGACIES.

	£	s.	d.
The late Mrs. S. A. Wallis	500	0	0
The late Mr. M. Bayard Brown	250	0	0
The late Mr. Ed. Alliston (one-fifth share) ...	103	2	4
The late Lady Florence Emily Fermor-Hesketh...	100	0	0
The late Mr. W. C. Flower Holmes	100	0	0
The late Mrs. C. M. Brown (one-fifth share) ...	59	11	7
	<u>£1,112</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>11</u>

A Public Meeting was held at The Church Room, Sheringham, on Friday, 16th April, when Lord Sandhurst presided, and was supported by Lord Huntingfield, M.P., (Vice-Chairman of the Institution), Rev. C. Harold Fitch, Mr. R. W. Gilbert (Chairman of the Urban District Council), and Mr. W. E. Hansell. There was an excellent attendance, and although the financial result was not very large, it is felt that the Meeting has helped to make known the work of the Institution in the District. In the course of his remarks Lord Sandhurst said:—

"What they wanted to do was to increase the number of subscribers and generally obtain the practical sympathy of all classes of the community. There were two points of view from which one could observe the work done by institutions of this kind, namely, the altruistic and egotistical point of view; but whatever way they looked at it it was difficult to imagine anything which had a greater claim upon their sympathy than the institutions for the assistance of mental defectives. He believed that these institutions—there were four or five of them in the country—were doing excellent work for those they were designed to help. These were people who were handicapped in earning a living for themselves and who were therefore a burden upon the community. Very often, besides being handicapped in looking after themselves, they were also with people who had not the time, inclination or

Public
Meeting at
Sheringham.

capacity to give them proper supervision. In these cases they might have become not only a burden to the community, but a danger to it. If they fell victims to drink they were less able to control themselves compared with their more mentally sound fellows. There was also the danger of the future generation. These were the people which institutions like the Royal Eastern Counties Institution set out to help. They protected them and taught them handicrafts, and they were no longer idle members of the community. They had only to look at the articles displayed in the room to see what could be done by these poor mental defectives. They produced work which was both useful and ornamental. But that was only a sample, because they did a great deal of work outside, such as gardening, agriculture, etc., all of which was directly productive and useful. Not only that, but they were happier than they would be left to themselves.

They were all moved by appeals on behalf of the hospitals which administered to the sick and suffering in body, but the plight of the person who was initially mentally defective was far more pitiful than that of the ordinary inmate of a hospital. In one respect it was more painful than the condition of insanity. He used the words initially defective because there was no recovery for this class, while the person who had the misfortune to fall a victim to insanity had a very reasonable prospect of recovery. All they could do in the case of a defective brain was to enable the owner of it to use it as far as it could be made possible to be used. They could easily imagine that there was no more moving appeal than an appeal on behalf of these poor persons. When he said they were happier in an institution than outside he did not wish to disparage the care which was taken of persons suffering mentally by their friends. He saw too much of it himself. He went into houses and found the light of love shining in the humblest cottages in a manner that constantly moved him to admiration, and it was often very distressing to friends of patients to be induced to part with them. But as a rule it was not realised that the affections of these affected persons were not very deep. Their imaginations of course, were not very keen, and although it was a great distress to their friends to part with them, it was by no means equally distressing to the patient to be removed to a home. There they found themselves in a corporate existence, associating with others who were more or less their equals.

At the Eastern Counties Institution there were Girl Guides, Boy Scouts, cinema performances, football matches, and private theatricals, things which had not entered into the conception of the mental defective when he was at home, so that they had an existence provided for them which was beyond the possibility of their friends providing for them. One of the advantages to the defective patient of an institution was that he found himself among persons of his own mental calibre. He was not constantly haunted by a sense of inferiority. The institution served Essex, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Norfolk. It provided without distinction for every grade of defective, from helpless idiots, whose intelligence was to be compared with that of an infant of 14 or 21 days to the high grade defective who was in many respects difficult to distinguish from most people outside. It was on behalf of the charitable aspect that they appealed, because the cost of maintaining these patients was more by something like £1000 per annum than the charitable subscriptions amounted to."



GUIDE CAMP, 1926.
UPPER GIRLS' SCHOOL COMPANY.

THE 4th HALSTEAD.



11th COLCHESTER GUIDES.

A DAY AT MERSEA.

The Autumn Meeting was held at the Town Hall, Bury St. Edmund's, on Friday, 10th December, when the Mayor (Major E. L. D. Lake, J.P.), presided over an influential gathering. The Meeting was addressed by Colonel, The Earl of Stradbroke, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.V.O. (Chairman of the Institution), The Lord Lieutenant (Sir T. Courtenay Warner, Bart., C.B.), Sir Geo. Agnew, Bart., Sir John Wood, Bart., The Deputy Mayor (Mr. S. Street), Mr. J. Maitland Wilson, C.B.E., D.L., Mr. C. J. E. Sparke, and Mr. J. Ridley Hooper, all of whom strongly advocated the claims of the Institution. Lord Stradbroke in a forcible appeal said:—

Autumn
Meeting at
Bury St.
Edmunds.

"They would all agree that the Institution had done and was still doing a very splendid work. He was Chairman of the Board of Directors but he had been away and had not been able to attend the meetings for some considerable time, and he hoped that anything he might say showing the Institution was carried on well and economically would not be taken that he had done the good work. It was, instead, the splendid work of those who had loyally devoted their time and abilities for the good of the institution. During his absence, Lord Huntingfield, M.P. had been most assiduous in his attendances and work for the benefit of the home. He had been well supported by many friends of the institution. They also must not forget the splendid work which was done by those who were actively responsible for carrying out the work.

The Institution had been in existence for nearly 70 years. When first organised there were no public monies of any sort given for the benefit of the institution, which was carried on entirely by voluntary subscriptions and support. As one might expect the work did not go on so quickly then because they depended entirely on support from private friends. Money was not forthcoming in such large sums as when given by the Government, but a very splendid work was done and for many years they carried on the affairs of the home entirely by private means. Later the numbers increased, and in 1905 there were over 300 patients and then 1915 found they had reached the total of 400. The Mental Deficiency Act, 1914, gave local councils power to send such people to various homes. Looking round they found no better managed institution than that of the Eastern Counties, and all the local authorities of the four counties gladly took the opportunity of sending the cases they were responsible for to Colchester, and that resulted in a great increase in the number of patients, and now the numbers were about 1,100. Some were paid for by the local authorities, and they did not ask for any assistance for their care and maintenance, but there was a great number outside that who did require assistance and help and it was for those they asked help from the people in the counties concerned. Besides the big home at Colchester, there were six other homes, three more at Colchester, and at Witham, Halstead, and Clacton. There were a great many grades of adults and children who were weak-minded, and it was very undesirable to

put those of the lower grades with those who were nearly, but not quite, normal. He showed how they were segregated and taught a good many trades and that they were able to make a good deal of the cloth and a considerable amount of the furniture. This gave the inmates something to be interested in, helped their development and gave them something to live for. And, at the back of their minds, he had no doubt the inmates felt a good deal depended on them and their work.

In taking these afflicted persons from their homes, in many cases from small houses, they were doing good for the families as well as for the individuals. The weekly cost per inmate was 19s. 10d., but he was afraid during the year 1926 they would find that amount was increased to a certain extent, partly due to the coal strike which had caused so much misery and added to the expenses of many people, and, he was afraid to taxation next year. That made it rather unfortunate to come before them and ask them to give even more generously in the future than in the past. But they all wanted to keep the institution up to the high level at which it stood and they did not want to reduce the numbers of those who had benefitted by their generous support. They must bear in mind the income they now received would not be enough to meet the needs or the cost of maintaining the numbers they had."

As the result of a Special Appeal which was materially forwarded by the personal exertions of the Mayor, £720 7s. 0d., was announced at the Meeting, and this total has since been increased to £826 7s. 6d. Included in this are the following Donations which have been of the utmost assistance:—

	£	s.	d.
Sir John Wood, Bart.	105	0	0
Sir George Agnew, Bart.	100	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur E. Holland	84	0	0
The Earl of Iveagh, K.P., G.C.V.O.	52	10	0
Col. the Rt. Hon. W. E. Guinness, P.C., D.S.O. M.P.	52	10	0
Messrs. Greene, King and Sons, Ltd.	52	10	0
The High Sheriff	52	10	0
The Marquess of Bristol, C.V.O.	50	0	0
The Lord Lieutenant	50	0	0
Sir Pierce Lacy, Bart.	20	0	0
Mr. C. J. E. Sparke ..	15	15	0
The Mayor and Mayoress	10	10	0
Mr. H. Martin	10	10	0
Mr. J. R. Hargreaves	10	10	0
Capt. A. H. M. Praed	10	10	0
Capt. Heilgers	10	10	0
Mr. Thomas Bower	10	10	0
Rt. Hon. Lord Islington, P.C.	10	10	0
Mr. W. N. L. Champion	10	10	0
Mr. G. A. Tonge	10	10	0

The Board are extremely grateful to Sir John Wood for so kindly starting the Appeal with a Donation of £105,

and they feel that his generous lead largely contributed to this successful result. This is the third occasion upon which Sir John has headed an appeal in the Bury District in a similar manner, and they have a very keen appreciation of the deep interest he takes in the Institution and the valuable assistance he has given. The Board are very much indebted also to the Mayor for presiding at the Meeting, and for devoting so much time and trouble to ensure its success.

The Spring Election was held at the Institution, Colchester, on 29th June, when the Mayor (Councillor A. W. Piper), presided. The Mayor of Bury St. Edmund's (Major E. L. D. Lake, J.P.) presided at the Autumn Election which was held at the Guildhall, Bury St. Edmund's, on 7th December. At each Election twelve candidates were elected for seven years.

Spring and
Autumn
Elections.

When the Endowment Fund was being built up in years gone by, the money subscribed was invested from time to time in India 3 per cent. Stock, and altogether over £19,000 had been purchased of this particular Stock unfortunately at a much higher price than has obtained in recent years. It was felt that this was too large a proportion of the Endowment Fund for any one investment, and, after taking expert advice, and after long and careful consideration this Stock has therefore been sold and the money re-invested as follows:—

Variation of
Investments.

£6,000 Metropolitan Water Board 3 per cent., B. Insc., Stock, 1934/2003.

£4,333 0s. 6d. India $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Stock, 1950/55.

£4,000 Leicester $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. Reg. Stock, 1945/55.

Owing to this re-arrangement of investments, the Endowment Fund has been depleted by £7,660 10s. 2d.

The arrangements for the extension of the Institution are a little further advanced, but it is somewhat disappointing that more progress has not been made. Plans were submitted to the Board of Control, and after several revisions it is hoped that a satisfactory solution will soon be reached. In addition to the six acres of land purchased in the previous year, an extra thirteen acres have been purchased which will allow of the lay-out being much improved. The roadway to the site has already been made

Extension.

up by the Colchester Corporation, and it is hoped that no obstacle will arise to cause any further delay. Applications are continually being received for admission which it is impossible to deal with under present conditions, and there is no doubt that the shortage of beds for cases of mental defect is a very serious and urgent problem.

**Purchase of
Hillsleigh.**

Arrangements have been made to purchase Hillsleigh, the branch at Colchester used as the lower grade boys' school. Hitherto this branch has been hired, but the lease expires very shortly, and the owners were unwilling to renew it, as they wished to sell the property. It would not have been easy to provide for these boys elsewhere, and the house has accordingly been purchased as it was felt that it would always be a useful building.

**Government
Inspections**

Commissioners of the Board of Control have inspected the Institution, and their report, which is of a satisfactory nature, is appended. Inspections have also been made by the Board of Education, and by the Home Office.

Deaths.

The Institution has suffered grievously by the death of some of its warmest supporters. Early in the year Mr. W. Coats Hutton who had succeeded Dr. Edgar A. Hunt, as Chairman of the House Committee, died. Mr. Hutton had been a member of the Board since 1910, and his sound judgment, and able conduct of meetings when in the Chair, were of much benefit. Besides supporting the Institution generously himself, he had been instrumental in obtaining large donations which were of inestimable value. The Board regret also to have lost Mr. Reuben Hunt, Mr. T. Hetherington, and Mr. A. M. Bernard, all of whom had rendered conspicuous service, and whose loss will be much felt. Mr. Reuben Hunt had been one of their colleagues for many years, and was always ready to devote his time and means for the furtherance of the Institution's work. Besides subscribing annually, he frequently gave Special Donations, and only two or three years since had sent a further large cheque in order to make up his total contribution to £1,000. Both Mr. Hetherington and Mr. Bernard had joined the Board more recently, but had given useful and valuable service.

The Board have also to record the recent tragic death of Geraldine, Marchioness of Bristol, who was the active Vice-Patroness of the Ladies' Association for over 30 years



CARNIVAL FOR THE HALSTEAD HOSPITAL.
THE UPPER GIRLS' SCHOOL TAKE A PART.



A FOOTBALL MATCH BETWEEN THE SCOUTS AND THE REST OF THE SCHOOL,

and regularly presided at its Annual Meetings wherever they were held. The success achieved by this Association was largely due to her Ladyship's personal exertions in securing Presidents when the movement was first started, in filling up vacancies when they occurred, and to her influence and enthusiasm. The services rendered by the late Marquis of Bristol, for many years Chairman of the Institution, are still fresh in mind, and they will both be remembered for their work for many charitable objects, but more especially for the deep interest they took in the Institution, and for all that they did for it.

Another warm friend has been lost in Mrs. E. P. Ridley who not only was a keen worker for the Ipswich Ladies' Association, but advocated the claims of the Institution at many Public Meetings, and was also the means of brightening the lives of many of the inmates by the Doll Collection which she inaugurated and carried on so successfully for a large number of years.

It is very gratifying to know that Mrs. Leonard Turner, and Mrs. Stagg have kindly agreed to continue this Annual Collection of Dolls.

The Board much regret to record the resignation of Col. J. C. Tyler, who for many years has been a very regular attendant at Board and Committee Meetings and has rendered valuable assistance. Dame Catherine Hunt, D.B.E., J.P., has accepted their invitation to join the Board and House Committee, and they are very glad to welcome her as a colleague, not only on account of the late Dr. Hunt's long and distinguished association with the Institution, but also because of the deep interest she takes in the work, and the material assistance she has given. Mr. E. C. Ransome, O.B.E., has joined the House Committee; Brig.-General Hildebrand, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., the Board and House Committee; and Mr. T. H. Westmacott, O.B.E., the Board.

Resignation.

Additions to
Board and
House
Committee.

Col. J. C. Tabor, T.D., who has been Vice-Chairman of the House Committee since 1921, has been elected Chairman of that Committee; and Mr. J. Oxley Parker, D.L., Vice-Chairman.

Mr. R. L. Impey, who has been the Auditor for over 40 years, has resigned on account of his health, and the Board desire to place on record their appreciation of the

Auditor.

help he has given during this long period. Mr. Impey's Firm (Messrs. Impey, Cudworth, Lakin-Smith, Goode & Co.) have been appointed Auditors in his place.

Thanks to
Honorary
Officers

Much assistance has again been rendered by the Honorary Officers, and by the various Banks, for which the Board are much indebted. They would like also to express their appreciation of the valuable help given at all times by the Press.

Staff

As in previous years the Board have much pleasure in recording their appreciation of the way in which the Medical Superintendent, Dr. F. Douglas Turner, the Secretary, Major Arthur Turner, and the Staff, together with those in charge of the other branches of the Institution, have carried out their duties. They feel that the whole of the Staff have taken their example from their leaders in carrying out their duties in the fine spirit which has enabled the Institution to be managed with so much success. The Board are well aware that great patience is required in the control and management of the inmates, and it is gratifying to find that the patients are so well cared for as is shown by their cheerful demeanour.

Vital need for
further
support.

It is a source of much satisfaction to the Board that owing to the generosity of their supporters, the work of the Institution has not had to be curtailed, although it cannot be denied that the past year has been an extremely anxious one in many respects. There is always the fear that through lack of funds some of the charitable beds may have to be given up, as the reliable charitable income is insufficient for the support of these cases by about £1500 every year. The excellent response received from the Bury District has helped to avert such a contingency for the present, but the future has to be provided for, and the Board do appeal most strongly for renewed and increased support. Ever since it was first started, the Institution has been a refuge for those unable to hold their own in the world, and has given them fresh interests and pleasures in life. It is the earnest wish of the Board to be able to carry on this work, which they feel is of the utmost importance, to the fullest possible extent, and they confidently appeal to the charitable public throughout the four Eastern Counties to show their approval by, if possible, a still larger measure of support.

(Signed) STRADBROKE,

14th March, 1927.

Chairman.

OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CONTROL.

ROYAL EASTERN COUNTIES INSTITUTION.

March 9th, 1926.

We have to-day completed the first visit of the year to this Institution, an inspection which has included in addition to the main building, Bridge Home, Witham; Greenwood Schools, Halstead; Lexden House; the two East Hill Houses; and the holiday home at Clacton-on-Sea.

In these premises jointly we found 1,064 patients under care divided as follows: 503 in the Main Institution, 241 at Witham, 91 at Halstead, 64 at Lexden House, 61 at East Hill House, 39 at No. 10 East Hill, and 65 at Clacton-on-Sea. In addition the names on the books included 32 persons absent on leave, nine in the care of friends working for wages, five working at home, nine at home but not able to work, and nine at work away from home, thus increasing the total number under care to 1,096.

Of the total number on the books 1,076 are Eastern Counties patients and 20 are out-County. One case has been sent by Guardians, sixteen are Home office cases under the Children Act, 74 are sent by Education Authorities, and the remainder (1,005) are detained under the Mental Deficiency Act, 580 under Section 6, 86 under Sections 8 or 9, and 339 under Section 3.

Of the total number on the books, the sexes are divided as follows: 622 males and 474 females. The admissions since the last visit number 122, and the discharges 39.

Of all patients under care 202 were on the school register, 756 were employed in some capacity or other, and 138 were of so low a grade as to be incapable of real occupation.

The deaths since the last visit numbered 19, seven being due to tuberculosis. All deaths were due to natural causes.

Little alteration has been made in the general scheme for classification in the various sections of the Institution, all cases except those sent by Education Authorities (which go direct to the schools) are admitted to the main building, which is also adapted for the care of adult male workers, adult female workers, low grade children of both sexes, low grade women, and all sick, debilitated, and cot cases.

Witham is reserved for low-grade adult males with, for administrative purposes, a certain number of adult male workers. Halstead is a school department for girls under sixteen with again, for administrative purposes, a sufficiency of female workers. East Hill House and 10, East Hill, are respectively the upper and lower boys schools with three or four men workers. Lexden House contains the adult female workers, and is the commencement of the Hostel branch. Six girls from that part of the Institution are in service as day workers. Clacton in summer is used as a holiday and convalescent home for high grade cases, and during the winter months houses those of lower grade.

We understand that plans may be submitted to our Board at no very distant date for a considerable increase in accommodation when the above arrangements may be materially altered.

We were generally impressed by the obvious care that is taken to secure good classification, and with the success that is evident in this direction.

It seemed to us also that the staff as a whole, including the six certificated and uncertificated teachers, the 39 unqualified teachers, and the male and female nurses (83 for day, and 14 for night) were ably supporting Dr. Turner in his efforts to secure the greatest benefit to his patients.

During our visit we paid special attention to all matters relating to the health of the patients, to their diet, teaching and training, and to details of care and supervision. The general health of the patients appeared to be good, and we were pleased throughout with their nutritional condition, a conclusion which was justified by the records of weights and dietary arrangements. In all, including the ancillary houses, we found only 17 patients under treatment in bed,

the majority of these suffering from ailments of a minor or transitory nature. These facts speak for themselves. The Tuberculosis record is also good, out of the 1,064 cases under care, in four only has the diagnosis of this disease been confirmed, and in two cases suspected.

We saw a dinner served in some of the wards consisting of boiled beef, potatoes and greens, followed by a pudding, a meal that was sufficient in quantity and well served. We thought perhaps that some better organised means for the warming of plates might with advantage be devised. Judging from the scale in force we thought the dietary was satisfactory and we were pleased with the kitchen arrangements, which have recently been improved by the addition of a Hobart machine and other useful equipment.

We spent a considerable time in the schools, workshops, and in the various class-rooms where we witnessed exhibitions of physical drill, eurythmics and dancing, and were given examples of the vocal powers of all grades from highest to lowest. We also saw many excellent examples of handwork of various sorts. It is interesting and satisfactory to learn that a great deal of the furniture of the Institution (chairs, tables, cupboards, etc.), is the work of the patients. Excellent and real work too was being done in the tailors, bootmakers, and weaving shops on the male side, and in the sewing, knitting, and weaving rooms on the female side.

We were particularly glad to hear that variety in work is carefully studied, and that patients are not kept interminably at one occupation.

The clothing appeared to us to be satisfactory, and the necessity for facilities for interest and amusement is kept well in mind, and the value of open air life so far as the climate allows, fully appreciated. The fact that the Institution is composed of several separate units, provides opportunities for classification, of which the fullest advantage is taken.

Although there are some parts of the premises showing signs of want of repair, re-decoration is proceeding as rapidly as possible, new lavatory accommodation has been provided in the main building for the first and second class

girls section, a new girls work-room is in process of construction which will be used temporarily for additional accommodation, and some other improvements of a minor character have been carried out throughout all the branches. Lexden House has been purchased with seven acres of ground, and a further eight acres of farm land elsewhere has been acquired.

Our visit left us with a very satisfactory impression of thorough efficiency both in the organisation and administration of this large and valuable colony.

(Signed),

HERBERT C. BAILEY.

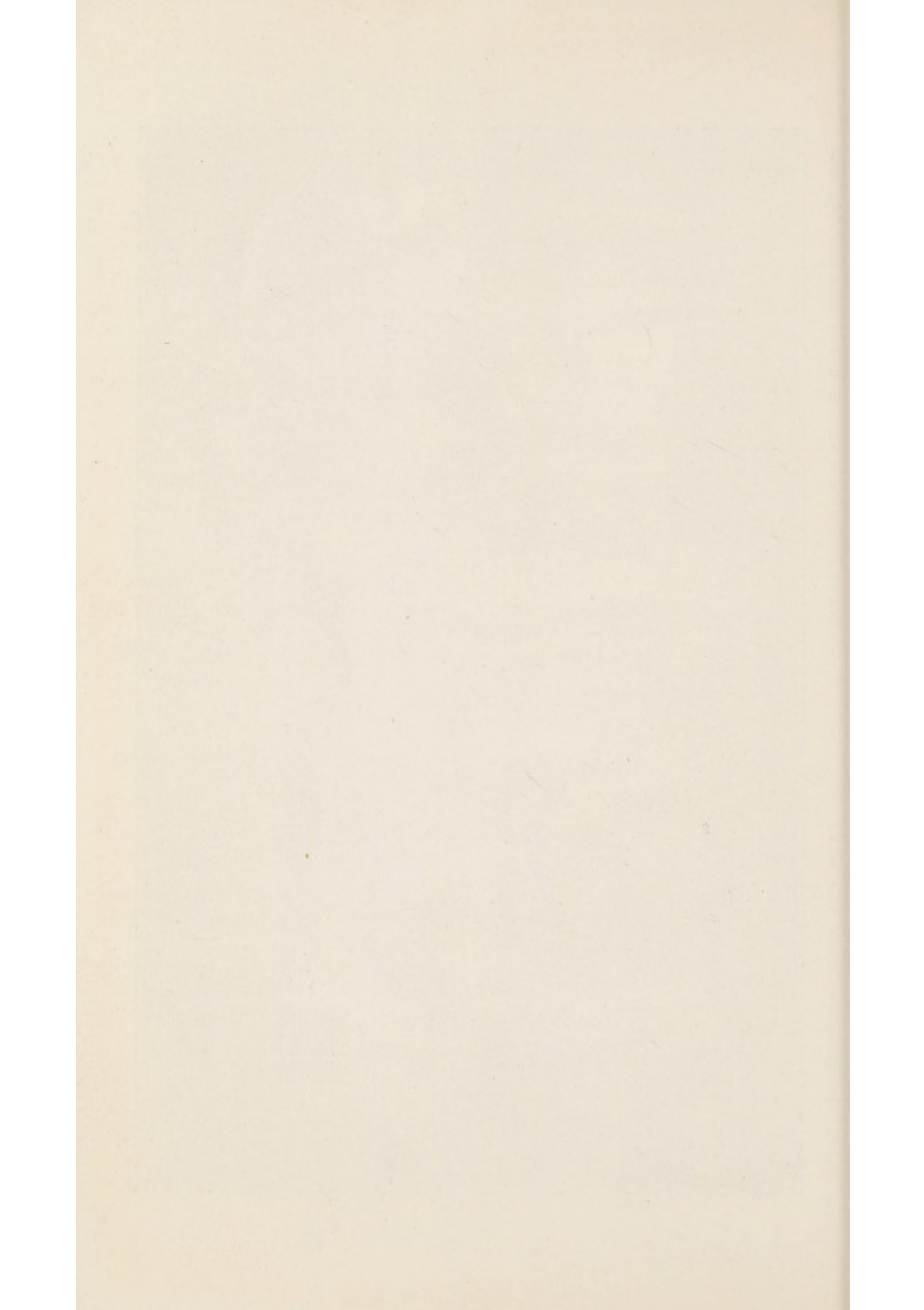
R. W. BRANTHWAITE,

Commissioners of the Board of Control.



THE RAGAMUFFINS BREAK UP THE KINKY-KIDS PARADE.

FROM THE UPPER GIRLS' SCHOOL PLAY.



THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Royal Eastern Counties' Ladies' Association.

In presenting the Thirty-eight Annual Report, I am very glad to record a successful year's work, much more successful than had been anticipated, because it was feared that the disastrous Coal Strike, and general upheaval would have had a very serious effect on our Collections. Naturally the small contributor must have been heavily hit by the Strike, and as our Collections are very largely made up by small contributions, we are indeed fortunate in being able to hand over a sum only slightly less than in the previous year. The total obtained, viz. £4,125 14s. 8d. is a remarkable tribute to the generosity of the contributors, and also to the keenness of our many helpers whose devoted efforts deserve unstinted praise. To have obtained such a result during a very difficult year is no mean achievement, and I would like to offer hearty congratulations as well as very grateful thanks for this splendid support. I am desired by the Board of Directors to express their deep indebtedness to our Association for the valuable assistance we have been able to render, and their warm appreciation of our work.

Success of
Collections.

Thanks to all
helpers

At a Public Meeting at Bury St. Edmund's recently held on behalf of the Institution, and at which the Mayor presided, a special Resolution was unanimously passed cordially thanking the members of the Ladies' Association for their help, and I was asked to convey this message to you all.

The following nine Districts have again collected over £100 and several of these have been able to increase their totals:—

Districts
obtaining
over £100

Norwich	...	...	...	235	16	11
North Walsham	...	...	...	209	4	1
Colchester	...	...	...	182	4	8
Woodbridge	...	...	...	159	15	5
Halstead	...	...	...	144	2	3
Cambridge	...	...	...	138	10	7
Braintree and Witham	...	...	...	135	11	4
Ilford and Barking	...	...	...	115	11	9
Diss	...	...	...	111	2	9

Norwich has usually contributed the largest Collection, Norfolk, and for the last eight years has obtained over £200 every

year. We owe this excellent result very materially to the perseverance and enthusiasm of our old friend, Mrs. Dakin, who for 37 years has been responsible for the organization and has also done a good deal of the actual collecting herself. She has enlisted the support of many who like herself take the keenest interest in the welfare of the Institution, and are always anxious to further its work. Mrs. Dakin has filled a long life with a wonderful record of help given ungrudgingly for many different objects, but I believe our Institution holds almost, if not quite the leading place in her affections, and we certainly yield to none in our gratitude to her. It is interesting to record that the total amount contributed by the Norwich Association through Mrs. Dakin's efforts since she first started the work in 1890, is £5,790 14s. 2d.

For the last six years the North Walsham District under Mrs. Petre and Miss C. B. Duff has sent in over £200 yearly, and the total amount collected since Mrs. Petre formed this Association in 1894 is £4,827 10s. 3d. There is again an increase in this Collection which is most encouraging, especially during such a difficult year, and which is a proof of the splendid efficiency to which the District has been brought and the remarkable keenness of all the helpers. Norwich and North Walsham between them furnish practically one third of the total amount received from Norfolk. Mrs. Sancroft Holmes who is another of our original Presidents, has as usual sent in a very valuable contribution from the Diss District. This is the only other District in Norfolk at present appearing on our list of honour, having first gained this position in 1903, but if Mrs. John Cator and Mrs. Carson are able to continue the excellent progress they have made in the Acle District during the last few years, there is a hope that we may also be able to include that District at no very distant date. I very much regret to have to record the death of Mrs. Richard Gurney who had been President of the Cromer District for several years, and who had rendered material assistance. In this District we have also suffered a further deep loss by the death of the Secretary, Miss H. S. Rust, who was a very keen worker, and had done so much for the organization of the District. Another warm supporter whose death I regret to record is Mrs. M. W. Hervey, who became President of the North Elmham District in 1905, and who has sent us very useful Collections ever since. I am sorry to report that Mrs. Colman feels obliged to resign the

Presidency of the Hethersett District which she has held since starting this Association in 1890. We are very grateful to her for the excellent support she has given for so many years, and shall much miss her help. I hope that we may be able to obtain a new President for this District as well as for the North Elmham District. I am glad to announce that Miss Gurney has most kindly agreed to succeed her mother as President for the Cromer District.

The County of Essex has done wonderfully well and in several Districts there has been an increase. At Colchester, Dame Catherine Hunt, who takes such a deep interest in the Institution, and who I am glad to know has been elected on the Board of Directors, has made a substantial advance, and I am hopeful that we may look to Colchester in the future to become the third District to obtain as much as £200. In addition to Colchester there are three other Districts in the County to obtain over £100, viz., Halstead under Mrs. Vaizey and Miss J. E. Thompson; Braintree and Witham under Lady Flannery and Miss Ruggles-Brise; and Ilford and Barking under Mrs. Ottaway. These three Districts are particularly well organised and the Collections are carried out in a very thorough manner. The Tendring District under Mrs. Edward Norman has been on our list of honour on a previous occasion, and has almost succeeded in regaining that position. I am hoping that next year this District may be well established thereon. Essex.

But for the fact that one of the Suffolk Collections has not been received, the County total would probably have been a little higher than in the previous year. The Woodbridge District under Lady Beatrice Pretymann has done exceptionally well, and Mrs. Wayman in the Clare and Haverhill District has largely increased her Collection by means of special efforts. Mrs. Charles Rowley has again obtained a very valuable contribution from the Hadleigh District, and at Bury St. Edmund's where we owe so much to the energy and perseverance of the hon. Secretary, Miss Ord, the total has once more been augmented. At Ipswich we have unfortunately lost by death two very excellent Vice-Presidents, Mrs. E. P. Ridley, and Mrs. William Roberts, and this has naturally had an effect on the Collection, although the President, Mrs. Douglas Hamilton, has done everything possible to avoid it. I understand that additional helpers are very badly needed here, and I hope that it may be possible to obtain a sufficient number to complete the organization of the Town. Suffolk.

Cambs.

The Cambridgeshire total has been well maintained and excellent returns have been secured throughout this County. The Cambridge Borough Collection has been carried out under difficulties, as owing to her husband's illness, Mrs. Wardale was unable to take much part, but her helpers have loyally supported her, and the result has been most encouraging. In the Caxton and Arrington District a fresh record has been established, as Lady Newton, and Miss L. C. Briscoe have again obtained the largest Collection ever received from that District.

Church and
Chapel
Collections.

A list of Collections from Churches and Chapels given through the various Districts is included in the Board of Directors' Report, and we are very grateful to the Clergymen and Ministers for the help they give us.

District
Meetings.

During the year the following District Meetings have been held, and have been addressed by the Secretary, Norwich, North Walsham, Bury St. Edmund's, and Ilford.

Necessity for
continuing
work.

May I once more express my gratitude for the valuable help you have all rendered and my appreciation of the loyal support I have received. There is no doubt we are helping in a very necessary work, as everyone will understand who has come in contact with mental defectives in their own homes, and has been able to contrast the way in which they are cared for at the Institution, but our Collections, excellent though they are, could I believe be still further increased if we could obtain the services of additional helpers. Many Districts are short of the number actually required to do the work properly, with the result I am afraid that there may be a tendency to overwork some of our best helpers, and in a few Districts no Collections have ever been made, simply because it has been impossible so far to interest anyone in the Institution. May I appeal therefore for Volunteers to help us to continue and extend our Collections. The Board of Directors appreciate most fully what we have done in the past, but they ask me to point out that at least another £1,500 is required every year in order to provide for the charitable cases already in the Institution, and that unless this amount can be raised there is always the danger that some of these cases may have to be discharged. Shall we do our best to increase our annual contribution, and thus help all we can in the prevention of such a calamity?

Additional
helpers
required.

£1,500 extra
required
yearly.

(Signed) S. M. GRAFTON,
March 10th, 1927. Vice-Patroness.

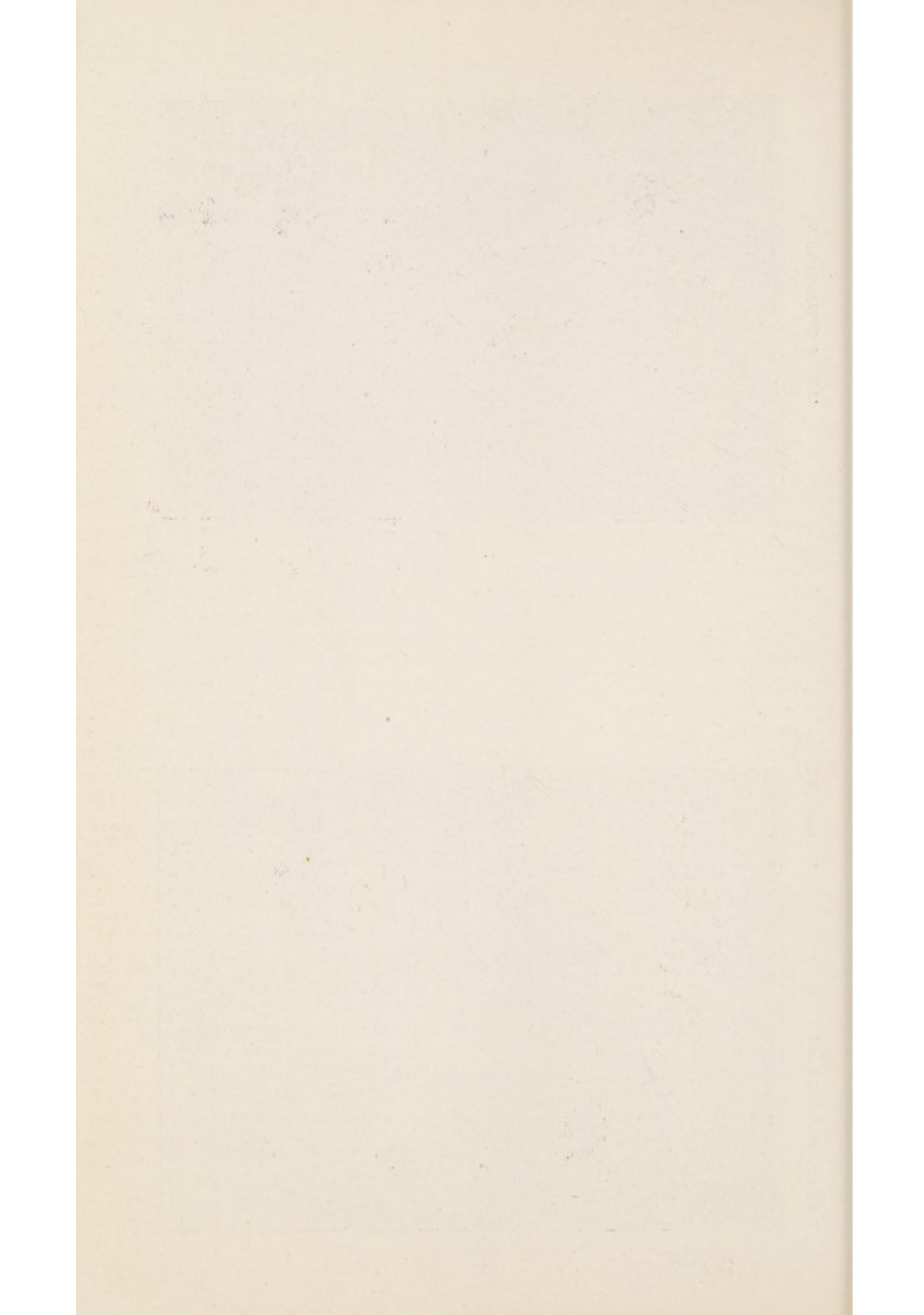


A CHRISTMAS FAIRY.



LEAP-FROG.

UPPER BOYS' SCHOOL.



**List of Amounts collected each year by the Ladies'
Association since its formation.**

							£	s.	d.
1890	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,868	6	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
1891	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,456	14	7
1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,414	5	9
1893	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,373	3	6
1894	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,632	4	6
1895	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,728	10	7
1896	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,911	13	0
1897	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,013	19	6
1898	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,570	13	6
1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,522	2	3
1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,638	17	3
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,811	5	5
1902	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,854	10	5
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,012	5	5
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,013	5	11
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,067	13	9
1906	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,231	7	8
1907	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,189	14	5
1908	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,335	0	2
1909	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,314	5	0
1910	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,272	6	5
1911	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,349	11	6
1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,236	13	3
1913	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,183	18	9
1914	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,082	10	2
1915	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,923	19	0
1916	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,963	1	2
1917	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,157	14	11
1918	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,242	7	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
1919	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,671	3	6
1920	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,896	6	9
1921	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,030	19	8
1922	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,138	6	0
1923	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,053	14	8
1924	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,140	3	7
1925	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,190	13	5
1926	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,125	14	8
							<hr/> £109,619 4 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ <hr/>		

NORFOLK.		1926.	1925.
DISTRICT.	NAME OF PRESIDENT.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
The Duchess of Grafton	Vice-Patroness	5 5 0	5 5 0
Acle	Mrs. John Cator	87 15 9	84 3 9
Attleborough		13 19 2	17 1 0
Aylsham	Mrs. Duff	81 12 1	86 5 1
Cromer	Miss Gurney	62 0 5	67 1 2
Diss	Mrs. Sanicroft Holmes	111 2 9	119 18 5
Docking	Miss Lucy Ridley	48 3 0	45 12 1
Downham Market	Mrs. Luddington	10 9 0	17 0 6
Drayton	Lady Grace Barry	57 6 3	56 4 9
East Dereham	Mrs. Macnaughton-Jones	52 2 8	56 6 9
East Harling	The Countess of Albemarle	49 11 11	46 12 1
Fakenham		48 12 6	57 9 5
Flegg	Lady Vincent	37 13 7	34 14 10
Freebridge Lynn	Lady ffolkes	24 7 0	26 19 7
Hethersett	Mrs. Colman, O.B.E. (Res.)	31 17 11	30 5 9
King's Lynn		13 16 8	2 14 0
Loddon	Mrs. Carr	49 3 2	45 19 0
North Elmham		31 0 1	32 8 4
North Walsham	Mrs. Petre	209 4 1	206 12 3
Norwich	The Lady Mayoress	235 16 11	248 2 5
Swaffham	Mrs. Herbert Smith	47 15 2	46 2 4
Thetford	Lady Charles Fitz Roy	51 3 0	51 12 5
Wymondham	Mrs. Routh Clarke	55 6 3	57 8 9
Great Yarmouth	Mrs. Arthur Harbord	2 5 6	3 2 6
		1417 9 10	1447 2 2
SUFFOLK.		1926.	1925.
DISTRICT.	NAME OF PRESIDENT.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beccles and Bungay	Mrs. Crowfoot	21 16 0	26 15 6
Bury St. Edmunds	The Mayoress	81 5 0	78 2 3
Clare and Haverhill	Mrs. Wayman	93 10 6	74 14 11
Hadleigh	Mrs. Charles Rowley	83 8 1	85 9 4
Halesworth and Southwold	The Countess of Stradbroke, O.B.E.	38 14 3	38 14 9
Hartismere	The Hon. Mrs. Wilkes	15 17 3	10 19 6
Hoxne	Mrs. Palgrave Raven	47 18 4	49 19 0
Ipswich	The Hon. Mrs. Douglas Hamilton	58 6 7	74 5 2
Lowestoft		21 14 6	26 11 6
Mildenhall	Lady Bunbury	44 15 7	38 2 5
Needham Market	Lady Packard	26 10 3	25 9 8
Samford	Mrs. Herbert Cobbold	68 15 2	72 16 9
Saxmundham	The Hon. Mildred Lowther	— — —	36 0 0
Stowmarket	Miss Compton Thornhill, M.B.E.	93 7 10	119 15 11
Sudbury	Lady Hyde Parker	58 13 1	54 17 0
Thingoe	The Hon. Lady Wood	34 13 6	12 9 9
Woodbridge	The Lady Beatrice Pretymen, O.B.E.	159 15 5	146 0 2
		949 1 4	971 3 7

ESSEX.

1926.

1925.

DISTRICT.	NAME OF PRESIDENT.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Billericay		—	—	—	—	—	—
Braintree and Witham	Lady Flannery	135	11	4	148	8	9
Brentwood	Mrs. Charles Crawshay ...	61	0	0	64	11	8
Burnham and Southminster	Miss Oxley Parker	47	6	3	42	15	2
Chelmsford	Mrs. Tufnell	38	9	0	34	16	2
Colchester	Dame Catherine Hunt, D.B.E., J.P.	182	4	8	171	0	8
Copford		3	2	6	4	3	6
Dedham	Mrs. Kelso	22	11	4	21	5	2
Dunmow	The Dowager Countess of Warwick	—	—	—	—	—	—
Epping		20	13	0	22	6	3
Grays	Mrs. Herbert E. Brooks ...	66	11	11	58	1	4
Halstead	Mrs. Vaizey	144	2	3	140	19	8
Ilford and Barking	Mrs. Ottaway	115	11	9	113	15	9
Maldon	Mrs. Solly	49	5	10	53	15	11
Ongar	Mrs. Howel Price	42	13	0	42	6	5
Rochford		37	1	5	43	0	5
Romford	Lady Neave	26	6	10	28	8	11
Saffron Walden	Mrs. A. Wentworth Stanley	15	12	4	23	2	3
Southend	Mrs. J. C. Ingram	20	4	0	19	4	6
Stansted	Miss F. Pulteney	21	5	2	28	19	0
Tendring	Mrs. Edward Norman ...	99	8	4	98	4	8
Woodford		8	1	6	8	6	6
Wivenhoe		1	14	0	1	6	0
		1158	16	5	1168	18	8

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

1926.

1925.

DISTRICT.	NAME OF PRESIDENT.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Cambridge	Mrs. Wardale	138	10	7	145	9	7
Caxton and Arrington	Lady Newton	45	14	7	42	17	0
Chatteris and March ...	Mrs. Cecil Stephens ...	67	7	0	1	15	6
Ely	The Hon. Mrs. White-Thomson	81	19	10	83	3	3
Fulbourn	Mrs. Townley	78	9	6	75	14	9
Linton	Mrs. Adeane	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newmarket All Saints	Mrs. Bannerman	19	17	6	51	0	3
Newmarket St. Mary ...	Miss E. Blanche Hammond	35	8	0	48	9	3
Newmarket (Country)	Harriet, Lady Cooper ...	62	3	11	80	7	9
Royston		—	—	—	—	—	—
Wisbech	Mrs. David Smith	70	18	8	74	11	8
		600	9	7	603	9	0

1925 Grand Total, £4190 13s. 5d.

1926 Grand Total, £4125 14s. 8d.

Medical Superintendent's Report.

*To the Board of Directors of the
Royal Eastern Counties' Institution.*

MY LORDS, DAME CATHERINE AND GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1926.

Lest you and I and the public should be tempted to believe, and it is a real temptation, that what matters in an Institution is the tale of material bricks added one to another, the material improvements to the buildings, the gardens and farms, or, that this year we have or have not cared for more boys and girls than in any previous year, I have placed the figures giving the changes in the Institution population, at the end of this report instead of, as is more usual, at the beginning. I leave also to a later page an account of any material advances we may think we have made.

A pat on the
back.

A recent number of the Training School Bulletin, a magazine published by the well-known Training School for the Feeble-minded at Vineland, New Jersey, makes this remark, "A pat on the back above the waist gets better results than several pats below." But this is true of ordinary people too. It is true of our staff as well as of our boys and girls, and, therefore first, I would like to emphasize that throughout the year, both staff and patients have played the game, and played a very good game too. I want to be first to give each a very good pat on the back above the waist. There are always day-to-day difficulties, innumerable occasions when tempers may get ruffled, when troubles, illnesses and worries may occur, but throughout it all I feel more and more, year by year, that our Staff are conscientiously and thoroughly doing their level best for those under their care, that the good name of the Institution, and, better still, its individual personal care of everyone within its boundaries is a real live thing to each one of them. I cannot thank them all enough.



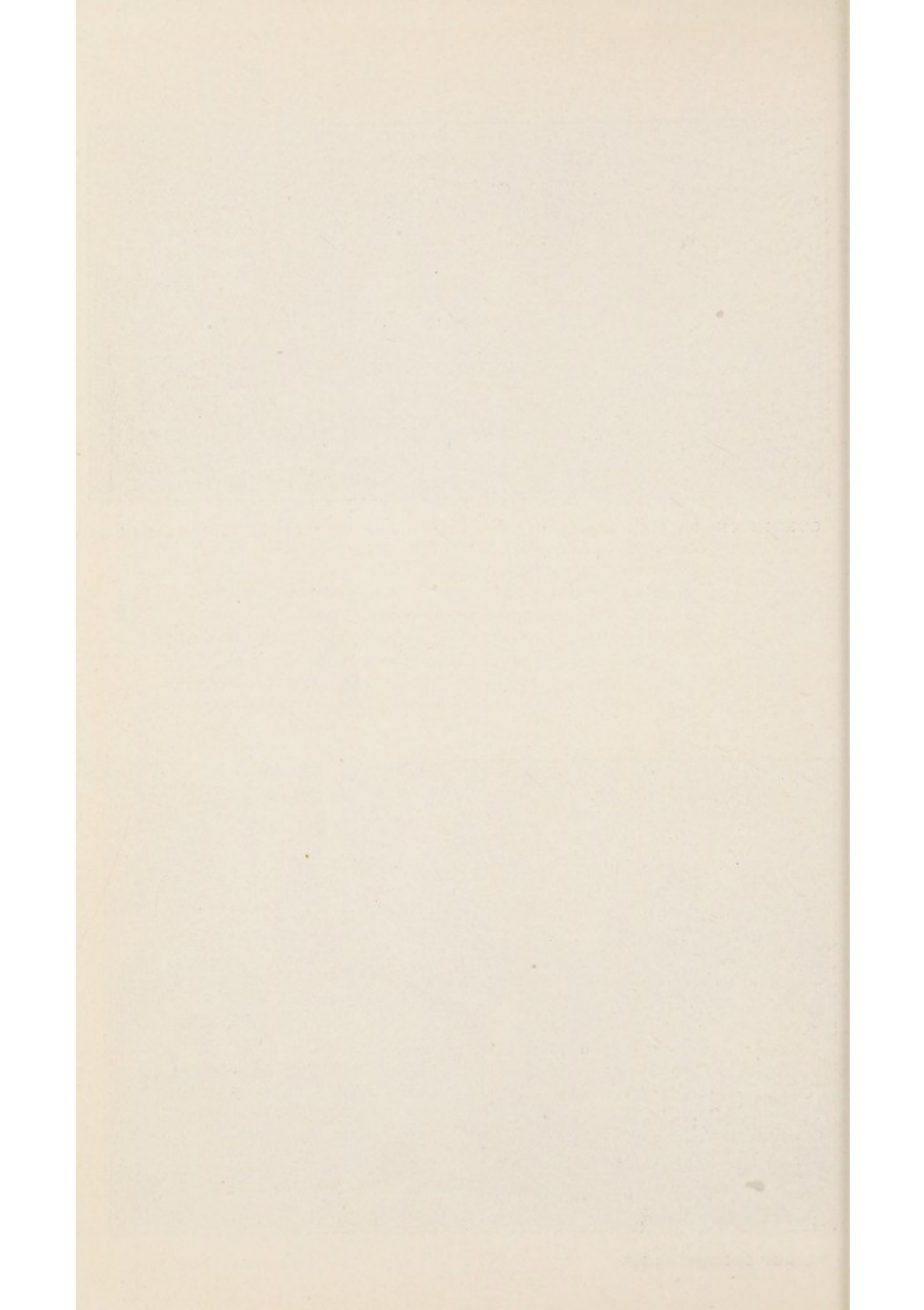
GUIDE COMPANY SIGNALLING.

"SEMAPHORE READY."



GUIDES' SUMMER CAMP.

"SHRIMPS FOR TEA."



And our boys and girls. What about them? It is not always easy to remember, though we try, that they are, each one of them A PERSON with an individuality all their own, and the right to as full a life as we can give them. It is not easy to remember that that personality of theirs may have been hurt almost irretrievably by their experiences before coming to us. The feeling of inferiority, to which most of them have become accustomed, is not a pleasant thing to carry about all one's days. When they see, as they mostly do within a short time of admission, that at last they have a chance to be no longer drudges and under dogs, but leaders in their classes, doing a real job well and properly, or members of the first or other eleven and playing for the place, or star performers, a duke or duchess on the Stage, then they too soon learn to play the game, and we find nearly all of them are very good persons inside. Easy, pleasant people to work with, who, like most of us, are really children at heart and want humouring and leading just like other children. I thank them too.

Our boys and girls.

One has to realise that the giving them as full a life as possible may mean, for some, life again outside an institution. Many experiments are being made in this direction now, but for the great majority of our people, I do most firmly believe that life inside an institution does offer, necessarily to the lower grades, but also to the medium and higher grade boys and girls, a fuller, happier life than one outside. For the average defective, life outside is too strenuous, too much strain. Often I have seen a girl or boy go from us with high hopes to some job outside, a selected job and one in which we can still prop them to some extent. They may manage the job fairly well, but often it is evident that they are up to their limit in strain. They manage perhaps better to begin with when keyed up, than later when the newness and the pride have worn off, and when the real monotony and drudgery and loneliness of earning a living at the sort of job a defective can manage, begin to take effect. And it has seemed to me that some, in spite of their feeling of pride that they are getting their own living, do give evidence in their bearing and manner of the almost unfair strain it is putting on them. When they fail for any reason it almost seems as though they were glad they had failed, glad to come back to the fuller life and the absence of strain in the institution. I wish to place my experience in this matter on record. There are also girls quite content to go on year after year

How full a life can we give?

The Question of Strain.

in a daily place returning each evening to the hostel. They fail less often, they do not seem to feel the same strain, they seem happier than the girl who has secured a "living-in" situation. For the greater number of our people, however, life inside must be happier than outside because it is life adapted to their needs, life without the strain of possible failure.

Additions.

In my Report for last year, I stated that in the previous three years we had spent £22,329 on capital expenditure, all designed to enable us to admit more patients, and that from the plans we had then made it looked as though we should lay out £4,000 or £5,000 in the same way during 1926. Minor structural improvements were not included.

I am happy to report that you have felt able to spend considerably more than this, and that during the last twelve months the expenditure on the provision of new accommodation or additional land, where in course of time new accommodation will be erected, has amounted to £5,798.

The chief items included in this outlay are the following:—

We have.

We have bought thirteen acres of land near Clay Lane, adjoining that already bought, and to be used as part of the building site for the large extension which we do really hope to see begun in 1928. This additional land is essential to the successful planning of this extension.

We have paid for the eight acres of land in Clay Lane, the buying of which for this same building site was reported last year.

We have built and paid for a single story building in the grounds of the main institution, which will eventually be used as a workroom, but which the Board of Control are allowing us to use as temporary additional accommodation. It provides thirty beds and cost with the heating and lighting, £2,973.

We have built and nearly paid for the enlargement of the male staff mess room at Bridge Home, Witham, and a story over this giving four staff bedrooms. This improvement was urgent. The old mess room did not allow all

the staff to sit in it at the same time, and the bedroom accommodation has always been insufficient for the indoor staff required. In 1926 the amount paid on this account was £475.

We have had to buy "Hillsleigh," No. 10 East Hill, Colchester, the home of the Lower Boys' School. Up to the present this has been rented. Only part of the cost comes into the accounts for 1926. The balance of the purchase money will be payable in March, 1927. If the cost of all these items, which amounted to £5,798 actually paid out in 1926, be added to the sum spent during the previous three years, the total expenditure on capital account during the last four years amounts to

£28,127.

Capital
expenditure
in four years.

Every penny of this has been found out of funds at your disposal; none of the money has involved any capital outlay by any Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency Act, though the beds will be used by patients sent in by these Authorities.

For the year 1927 you have already sanctioned the following items of expenditure:—

We have to pay the balance of the money for the mess room and staff accommodation at Bridge Home, about £225. We have to do.

We have to pay the balance of the money for the No. 10, East Hill.

We have to pay for the re-building of one wing at Bridge Home, Witham. This has been sanctioned by the Board of Control, and is an alteration that is urgent. This wing belongs to the lower grade men whose habits are faulty. Their day room is too small for this class of patient. They want plenty of room to move about in, and the existing floor is old and insanitary. The lavatory accommodation is also old and unsuitable. It is intended to enlarge the day room, and put in a wood block floor, to build over the day room a new dormitory giving eighteen additional beds, and to re-model the lavatory.

We have to pay for alterations and additions to No. 10, East Hill. While this house was rented nothing could be done, but now it belongs to the Institution certain

alterations are urgently required. The existing school room is not large enough for the oral-manual work that is such a necessary feature of the training of these lower grade boys, the staff have no sitting room, they have to use the kitchen, the lavatory accommodation is insufficient and wrongly placed, and the staff bedrooms are overcrowded. When this house was first rented it was used for medium grade women who did most of the work of the branch. Now it is used as a lower grade boys' school, so that not only has all the housework to be done by the Staff, but these boys need much more looking after and therefore a bigger staff. It is proposed to pull down the present conservatory which is useless, and build out a large school-room with a dormitory over it and new lavatory accommodation beyond it. These alterations will enable the staff to have a sitting room, and two more bedrooms and give eight additional beds at this branch. The work is to be carried out by the Institution staff. It will also be necessary to renew the existing electric light installation, which is dangerous.

We have to pay for the installation of electric light at Crossley House, Clacton, a much needed improvement which was long overdue, but is now completed. Lighting by gas is not safe with our patients. I could wish it were possible to make the same alteration at Bridge Home, but no electric current is yet available in that town.

Smaller improvements. In addition to the larger alterations already enumerated, we have during 1926 carried out smaller improvements.

The bath room and wash place at Rowley House, Bridge Home, has been re-modelled, new basins and floor have been provided, and the walls partly tiled. The two rooms have been divided making bathing warmer and more comfortable.

A dirty linen house has been built at Bridge Home, to take the linen from the hospital for first treatment, and to avoid if possible taking any infection into the laundry.

A new steam calorifier and reserve hot-water cylinder have been put in at Bridge Home, the existing calorifier being worn out.

The last of the improvements made possible by buying Bridge Home, Witham, and the consequent alterations in the different classes, have now been completed. This:

means that the female staff in the Main Institution have a larger and very pleasant mess room, the main needlework room has been moved to larger quarters, the old needlework room has been turned into a larger drapery store, and the old drapery store has been used to provide six additional beds on the male side of the house.

A vegetable store has been built close to the kitchen at the Main Institution.

Three additional staff bedrooms have been constructed allowing us to add five beds to Bristol House, and to provide a single room for use in connection with the first and second class girls. It is a help to have a small room into which a doubtful or suspicious case of illness can be put for a day or so till the nature of the disease is apparent.

A shelter with a glass roof has been put up in the South Suffolk Annexe playground. It is a great help in bad weather.

The lightning conductor on the tower of the Main Institution, which was no doubt installed many years ago, was proved to be defective and a new conductor was erected.

The electric light wiring of the Main Institution was put in about twenty-seven years ago. It is not up to modern standards of safety. The whole of it has been tested electrically. Parts were found unsafe and have had a new installation put in. The cellars, which are damp, were mostly affected.

A gas griller, two gas ovens, and a gas automatic water heater for supplying hot water for breakfast and tea, have been put in the main kitchen. They are all helpful especially the griller. It used to be impossible to cook the staff breakfasts properly.

A new water supply has been laid to the cow-house on the farm, with automatic supply bowls for the cows to drink from.

Four additional pigstyes have been made.

The usual staff of painters, namely five, has been fully employed throughout the year. The Peckover Shops, the Hospital, Bristol House, and about half the buildings at Witham have been painted externally and much internal decoration carried out.

Our ideals.

In my Report for last year, and for 1924, I fully explained my ideals for the future of this Institution, namely, that we should be the centre of all work for defectives in the Eastern Counties, that all defectives in these Counties who could not be cared for at home should, as the ordinary and normal method of procedure, be sent in the first instance to us at Colchester, to be dealt with by our highly trained and specialist staff. Later after training and treatment, some would be able to go to a simpler type of institution, to the hostel for day service or "living-in" service to foster mothers or their own homes on long leave of absence. The great need at the present time in dealing with the defectives of the Eastern Counties, is a central co-ordinating authority or committee free from all red tape and hampering restrictions, which shall have the power to place each patient in the niche most suitable for development and happiness, wherever that niche may be.

We have tried during the past year to develop all these forms of care, and it is only fair to say that I have found the various local Authorities under the Act ready and eager at all times to carry out any suggestions I have made for the placement or replacement of any of their patients.

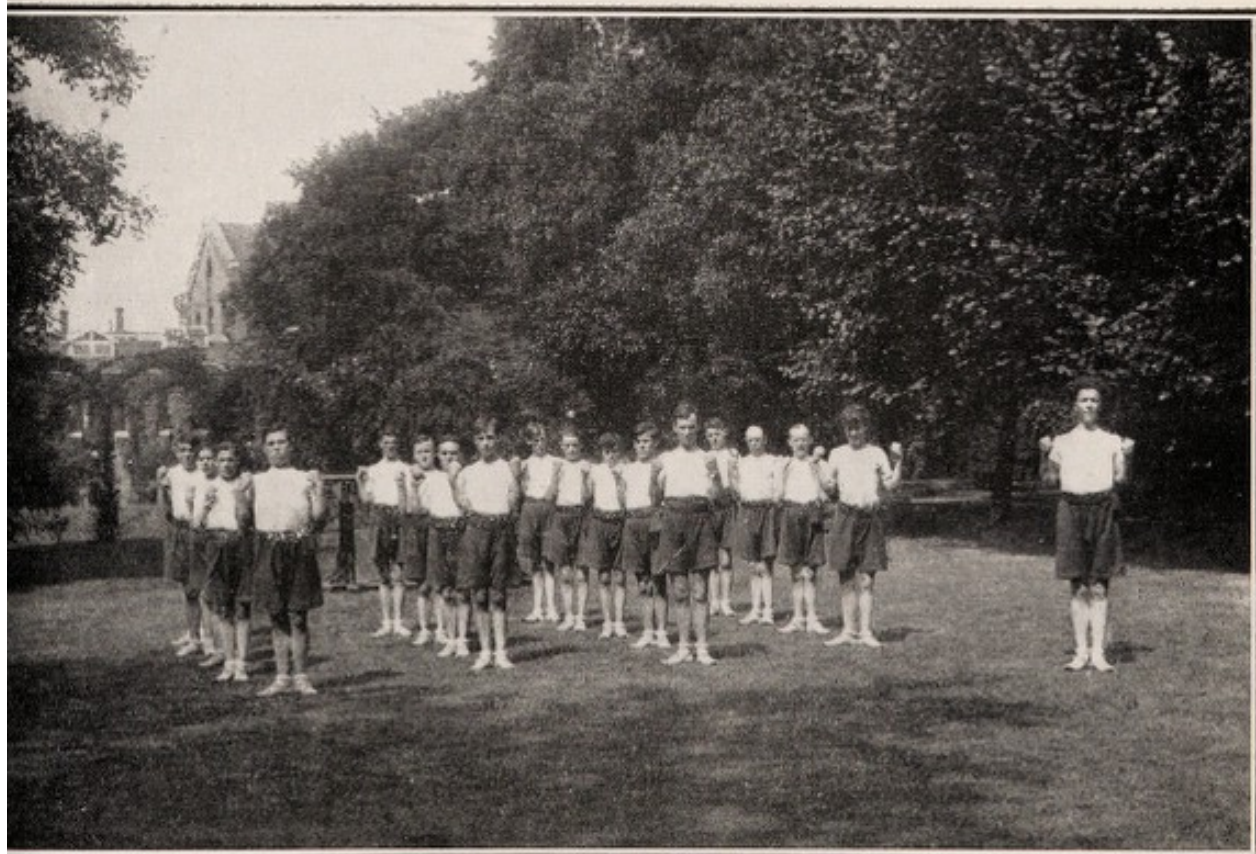
Day service and living-in service we have now been experimenting with for some years; sending patients to a simpler type of institution is no new thing, and the chief development this year has been an increased use of foster mothers for the quiet well-behaved type of case.

Foster
Mothers.

These cases go to the foster mothers on long leave of absence from the Institution, and this leave is renewed time after time. This method is much to be preferred to that of putting them under the guardianship of the foster mother, chiefly because, with leave of absence, if anything happens either to the foster mother or the patient, the patient can if necessary be returned to the Institution at a minute's notice. The foster mother may become ill, and have no one able to take over the care of the patient; the patient may become ill and need more treatment than the foster mother can give; the patient may become too difficult for an ordinary home, or have a mental breakdown. I have had several times to send a car to bring back at once to the Institution, a patient on long leave of absence with a foster mother, for one or other of these reasons.



LOWER BOYS' SCHOOL BY THE SEA.



A GYMNASIUM CLASS.



I feel that the only safe type of patient that can or should be sent to a foster mother, is the quiet well-behaved medium grade defective. I do not think it is much good placing high grade patients out in this way. The ordinary cottage home life is too monotonous after Institution life, especially if the necessary restrictions on freedom are observed.

For another reason, few low grade defectives can be placed with foster mothers, at any rate so far as my experience goes. The foster mother who asks for a low grade case does not realise what she means by that description; she has visualised a pretty child, quiet, with no fits, no tantrums, not a cripple, clean in habits, not restless or destructive who will not upset other children, is quite moral, and can help a bit about the place. If low grade cases like this exist, we do not get them in the Institution, and cannot therefore supply them when demanded. The nice looking ones are not clean or they are epileptic, or cripples, and those who can do a bit about the house are generally either immoral or, to put it mildly, have tantrums.

On 31st December, 1926, we had 59 patients on this leave of absence in some way or other. Seventeen were living at home and going out to work for wages. The highest wage received was 52s. 6d. a week, seven were having between 20s. and 40s. a week, and the rest under 20s. a week. Eight had "living-in" situations in domestic service, but all still attached to our hostel. Wages in addition to board and lodging ranged from £13 to £20 a year. One, a man, was employed as a carpenter attendant earning £78 a year and board, lodging and uniform. Seventeen were living and working at home or with a foster mother. Most of these were medium grade, quiet, defective girls. Sixteen were living at home or with foster mothers, able to do a little about the house, but not really to be counted as workers. These were lower medium grade well-behaved cases.

Thirteen girls went to day service from our hostel, for some part of the year. Four passed on to "living-in" service, two failed at the work, and seven remained in day service at the end of the year. One girl who had behaved thoroughly well in "living-in" service for over three years, was finally discharged.

In addition to the above, fifty-seven female patients, and forty-three male patients are allowed to go out unattended for walks, or to Church. They, generally go three together. An odd one out is safer, or at least we hope it is.

The proper placement and the supervision of these patients on long leave of absence continues to be the most anxious part of a superintendent's work, more especially those going out to work from their own homes, from the hostel, or in "living-in" service. A certain amount of freedom must of necessity be allowed. The patient must go to and from work, generally unattended, mistresses must send their maids out on errands, or with their children.

Difficulties.

Once a commencement of liberty is made, the high grade defective generally thinks all restrictions should be withdrawn and complete freedom allowed, and where the defective is sent home to go to work from their home, it is my experience that, as a rule, complete freedom is allowed. The parents do not or cannot keep the conditions of the licence.

If a girl is sent to service some way from active supervision by the Institution, the mistress quickly forgets the terms of the licence, and here again in a shorter or longer time, almost complete freedom obtains. It is for these reasons that I am only in favour of sending girls to service, if it can be obtained for them, near to the hostel so that they can return to it during the greater part of their spare time and the Matron there can continue to supervise their clothes, their cleanliness, and their monetary affairs.

Misgivings.

This greater measure of freedom, this attempt to get a proportion of the defective population back again into the world under more or less supervision and control, has no doubt come to stay, though I must confess that I do not view it with the sanguine hopes of some who support it. It is anxious work. It is full of risks, and some failures are bound to occur. It seems to be more a matter of luck than anything else whether these failures remain simply that or become catastrophies. Often, fortunately, one hears a rumour of something amiss before anything serious has happened, often again gossip proves unreliable, and you decide to continue to run risks. I must confess to a considerable degree of pessimism about

the possibility of getting the higher grade cases back into the world. If every high grade defective in our area came to us *whether they had behaved well or ill*, no doubt many more might be returned to the world again and do well. Apart, however, from the fact that it would be impossible to provide sufficient beds for this, and the other fact that it would often be difficult to certify them, under existing legislation, there is no need for these well-behaved high grade defectives to come to an Institution.

A large part of the monotonous, lower grade unskilled work of the world is performed by people who are or are very nearly defective, but well-behaved. In an Institution, and especially with the existing shortage of beds, the only high grade cases we get are those who have already failed many times to adapt themselves to an outside environment.

In spite of years of training in an Institution, in spite of the most careful tutoring when they go outside, some, perhaps many, are bound to fail again. With the boys they are the first to lose their job if work is slack; with the girls there is constant temptation whenever they go out. In my experience they withstand this at first, but I am beginning to wonder if about twelve to eighteen months is not the limit of time during which most of them can be expected to stick to their job and run straight. After that, should most of them come back to the Institution for a further probation before continuing the trial? I do not express a definite opinion, but I do put my fears into words.

Should leave
of absence be
limited to
twelve
months?

In America, so far as one can judge from printed reports, they seem to take it for granted that of those sent on leave of absence or parole, a certain number are bound to return to the Institution for a further probationary period, a certain number are bound to fail or get into trouble, to marry or abscond.

Here in England the only class of patient that I send out to long leave of absence without serious misgiving, is the quiet, well-behaved, medium grade defective, who has not previously failed outside, and who is mentally still a child content to live for always as a child, with a good foster mother.

**A Mental
Deficiency
Bill.**

A Mental Deficiency Bill was introduced in the House of Lords during 1926, passed through all its stages there, and went through Second Reading and Committee Stage in the House of Commons. Then, unfortunately, owing I cannot help thinking to a misunderstanding of the intention and effect of the Bill, it met with opposition and was withdrawn. It was badly needed, and its withdrawal is to be deplored as it seems unlikely it will be re-introduced by the Government this year.

The Bill may be divided into two parts. One part consisted of an additional explanation of the term mental defective, the other of much needed administrative changes.

To the latter part little objection could be taken; it was the explanatory definition of mental deficiency that aroused opposition.

Definitions.

The original Mental Deficiency Act defined mental defect as a condition "existing from birth or from an early age." Some limitation of this kind is necessary or it would have been possible to bring within the Act those people who are apparently normal during childhood, but who have a mental breakdown later in life or suffer from mental infirmity due to senile decay, classes already provided for under the Lunacy Acts.

**Stumbling
blocks.**

In practice, however, the definition has proved a stumbling block and in many instances it has been interpreted in such a narrow sense as to cut off from the benefits of the Act persons who without doubt are defective and in urgent need of protection. There are three difficulties. One is the construction placed on the definition by many Doctors and Magistrates. "An early age" is in some cases construed as meaning two, three, or four years old. All cases diagnosed after that age, and that includes almost all the high grade cases, are held by some to be outside the Act, to their own great misfortune. It is also held by some that cases arising from disease after birth are excluded. It need scarcely be said that no mental deficiency specialist has limited the meaning of the Act in these ways. They have taken it to cover any condition of arrested or incomplete development of mind whether congenital or induced by disease or injury at or after birth, and up to the age when development may be said to be finished. This is the opinion I have always acted on and I have found no difficulty in so doing.



NEW YEAR'S PARTY.

"MISS 1927 ARRIVES."

The third stumbling block has more substance in it. It is held by many doctors and lawyers that if an adult be brought for examination as an alleged defective, say a person accused of some crime, he cannot be certified on his then existing mental condition unless there is in addition proof of the defect having existed from birth or an early age. In many cases this proof cannot be obtained, and the Report of the recent Departmental Committee on Sexual Offences against Young Persons published in December, 1925, drew special attention to this difficulty.

Personally I have always held, and I believe mental deficiency specialists agree in saying, that, given a mental defect, then a thorough examination and a recent history, will in most cases enable a specialist to say that in fact the defect must have existed from birth or an early age. I have acted on the belief that I am entitled to infer mental defect from the known adult conditions without production of outside evidence of the defect having existed from an early age. These difficulties have, however, proved a stumbling block to the administration of the Act and some defectives who have committed crimes have escaped being dealt with under the Act, just because of these difficulties.

In my opinion the definition in the Bill as brought forward last year was chiefly an explanatory one. It explained the definitions in the original Mental Deficiency Act. It did not widen those definitions. The bill defined mental defect as "a condition of arrested or incomplete development of mind, whether innate or induced after birth by disease, injury, or other cause."

The words "other cause" seem to be unnecessary. Whether an age limit should be inserted is a matter of opinion. Most specialists would prefer the definition without this. In bringing in the Bill, too much stress was laid on the supposed need to bring within the Act cases of encephalitis lethargica, too little stress on the merely explanatory nature of the definition, but no doubt at the time it was thought impossible that anyone would object to such a reasonable Bill. Opposition was aroused by misunderstanding. It has even been said that it was a Bill to deal with adults who were normal till after they grew up, a complete misapprehension of the plain words of the suggested definition.

Our large
extension.

In my Report for 1925, I described at length the general plans for doubling the size of the Institution, the capital expenditure being provided by the County Councils of Essex, East Suffolk, West Suffolk, and Cambridgeshire. Everyone hoped that by this time the architect's plans would have been in such a forward state that it would have been possible to say the actual building operations would begin this Spring. The planning, however, for another eleven hundred patients means, as much preparation and as much thought as the building of a new institution. Innumerable questions have to be considered, and unfortunately there is not in existence an ideal mental deficiency colony from which lessons might be learned. All the older institutions are built on the barrack system, and practically all the existing institutions were planned for a smaller number of patients and have been added to just where additions were possible, rather than where they would have been best. To give an instance of the questions which may arise. What should be the proportion in size between the wash-house and the ironing room of an institution laundry? If you ask four experts you will apparently get four replies differing by as much as one hundred per cent.

Plans.

Another great difficulty is the urgent need for economy. It is comparatively easy to draw plans which will give you all you may think desirable for a given number of patients. It is not quite so easy to draw plans which, though not giving all you want, will still give all you may perhaps reasonably ask. It is very difficult indeed to draw plans which will comply with the regulations, and give the minimum of conveniences that you may think you can manage on. Because economy must be studied, this is the problem that has had to be solved.

Fortunately for me, these difficulties have fallen on the shoulders of the Essex County Architect, Mr. Stuart. Many, many plans have been drawn and considered, and those that appeared to be the best have then been sent to the Board of Control and considered with them. Plans have been revised and again considered. Plans are still being revised. On the whole, I think we can say that the plans are getting into their final shape, that we may hope that at least, the general lay-out of the colony, the block homes for the patients, which may

eventually be duplicated twenty times or more, and some of the staff quarters are nearly settled, but very much more remains to be done before building operations can start. Mr. Stuart, the County Architect, has been extraordinarily good throughout. A great deal of work has been accomplished, but when one considers the day-by-day demand for empty beds really needed to admit desperately urgent cases, one is apt to be despondent. The need for haste.

Apart from this big plan, we have done what we could here to fill this want. The alterations of class rooms, the construction of additional staff bedrooms, and the provision of the single story workroom in the grounds of the main Institution, have added forty-six beds to the accommodation. The new workroom makes temporarily a delightful place for the Nursery Class of crippled children. It measures internally 90 ft. by 30 ft., and gives a dayroom and a bedroom for thirty children, with the necessary offices. It is of steel construction, the space between the upright steel joists which support the open roof being filled in with 4½ inch brickwork plastered internally. At one end the door opens directly into a playground, on the opposite side of which is a thatched open summer-house. This is convenient, as all the children have to be carried in and out. For over six months, consecutively, these children had every meal, including breakfast, outdoors; late in October the mornings became cold and they had to have their breakfast before going out. Forty-six beds added.

At the branches, work has been carried on much as in other years. At Bridge Home, Witham, the re-building of the wing for the lower grade male patients is an urgent necessity. The large number of low grade patients at this branch makes the work peculiarly difficult and trying, and Mr. Stoffer and his staff are to be congratulated on all they manage to do and the cheerful alacrity with which they do it. Many small improvements have been made in the buildings in addition to those already specified. The apple crop was a failure, but gooseberries were plentiful, and nearly as much jam was made as in 1925. Bridge Home, Witham.

The first football team were again runners-up for the headship of the local league.

The Upper Girls' School at the Greenwood School, Halstead, again added to our enjoyment by producing a The Upper Girls' School Play.

play, "The Duchess and the Dragon," which eclipsed even their previous efforts. Out of a school population of ninety, sixty-nine appeared in the production. The play has been given twice at the Queen's Hall, Halstead, and three times at the Village Hall, Earls Colne, with the usual success. The proceeds amounting to over £85 are used to cover the expense of the Summer Camp.

Thanks to
Halstead.

We are much indebted at the School for the way in which the people of Halstead have adopted us, made us part of the place, and help us whenever they can. For instance, Mr. Preece's Orchestra has played at each of the public performances of the play and at some of the rehearsals, I need scarcely say entirely without fee or reward. During the winter they have frequently given up an evening to play for a dance for the children at the School, and they added to this by coming over to Colchester and, with other friends from Halstead, giving us here an excellent concert. Mr. Mayes has been good enough to do all the limelight effects for the play, and, in addition, give picture shows at the school. The girls were invited to join in the Carnival in aid of the Cottage Hospitals. They were given a van to themselves, and staged a scene which was much admired.

Tents for
Camp.

Miss Blinco has been most kind, with other friends, in organising subscription dances to provide tents for the Camp. These will be a great help, as the cost of the Camp is much increased by the expense of hiring thirteen bell tents and a marquee each year. When the School has tents of its own they will be able to use them also for week-end camps near Halstead, a treat to which they are looking forward.

The School had a great day at a Conservative Fête to which they were invited by the Member, Mr. Foot Mitchell, and Mr. Moger. They took all the prizes in each race they could enter for, and Captain Hunt and Miss Blinco motored them there and back. Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Potts sent many Christmas presents, including one personally selected by them for each girl who had none from home.

Guides
Summer
Camp.

The School Guide Company, through the kindness of Sir Robert Balfour, were allowed to camp for a fortnight in the Park at Langham Hall just above the river. Mr.



GUIDE SEMAPHORE CLASS.

SIGNAL DONE.



A EURYTHMIC CLASS.

Johnston, the Agent, was exceptionally kind in doing everything he could for their comfort. It was a change from the other camps, which have been by the sea, and I think was enjoyed more than any previous one. It was held in June, when the days are long, the School having part of its holiday then instead of in August.

The School Guides and Brownies have taken one hundred and thirty-three Second Class and Proficiency Badges. A Semaphore Class has been running this winter, and we are very grateful to Mr. W. H. May for taking it. Photographs will be found in this Report, and many girls are looking forward to passing this test and becoming First Class Brownies. The Semaphore Class.

The School Magazine, "The Limit," has continued its successful career. The editors are modern in outlook, for like most newspapers nowadays, the magazine is full of photographs. I frequently learn a lot of history from the queries and remarks it contains. The School Magazine.

The Eurythmics Class has continued its work, much to their own enjoyment and the surprise of those who see them. All this enthusiasm, all these excellent results, all the help the School receives from outside, are due to the personality, the example, and the self-sacrificing work of the Head Mistress, Mrs. Taylor. Eurythmics.

The Upper Boys' School at East Hill House has done very well. It needs considerable driving power to continue year after year teaching and training mentally defective boys who, just when the results of years of work are becoming apparent, have to leave at the age of sixteen. Then other people reap the success of the good work they are able to do because of the long years of patient plodding. This is Mr. Harris's job, and he is always keen and never discouraged. The School does a good deal of effective wood carving, besides leather work, and grows most of the vegetables for its own consumption, as well as those for the Lower Boys' School. Last year, over 500 pounds of tomatoes were grown, that is—five pounds for each boy at the two Schools. The Upper Boys' School.

The Scout Troop is undoubtedly a power for good in the School. They have not yet been to Camp, but frequent The 22nd Colchester Scouts.

hikes and picnics have given much pleasure. In the Ambulance Competition for the twenty-two Colchester Troops, they came out fifth. Their Christmas Concert was much enjoyed by us, and I would like to thank both Mr. Murphy and Mr. Haley, who frequently give up an evening to come and amuse the boys.

**The Lower
Boys' School.**

The Lower Boys' School at No. 10, East Hill, has continued its difficult work. In addition to the other manual work, the painting and stencilling of bowls and jars has been started, and that and the leather work combined have resulted in a profit of over £12 during the year. This gives no idea of the labour involved in teaching these boys, most of whom when they first come to the School cannot walk from one end to the other of a wooden plank without coming off. We thoroughly enjoyed, and so did they, the Christmas entertainment they provided. It lasted almost an hour-and-a-half; simple, of course, and often the words of the songs were not very plain, but the joy it gave to the performers as well as to us, and the enthusiasm with which they helped us to clap themselves, made it very well worth while. Miss Kerry shows day by day what can be done with very unpromising material. I am very grateful to her.

**Lexden
House.**

I always refer with pleasure to the work at Lexden House. This branch and its situation are so delightful in every way. The responsibility on the Matron, Miss Beynon, of developing the hostel side of the Institutions's work is no light one. I have reported elsewhere on the girls in service. Not a door in the house is locked by night or by day, except that of the medicine cupboard.

**The Seaside
Home.**

Crossley House, Clacton, is also used as a hostel for a few girls. It is sometimes easier to get a situation here than at Colchester. The Matron, Miss Seaden, is indefatigable in making this house by the sea a place where everyone who gets the chance of going will be sure of spending a delightful holiday. It is the greatest help to have a holiday and convalescent home like this attached to the Institution.

Work done.

One side of the work of the Peckover Technical Schools is shewn in the total figures of "Work Done" which will be found on other pages of this Report, but no

figures can show the unwearying patience and perseverance of the staff of teachers and trainers who have made these figures possible. The figures are merely totals, so many boots repaired, so many jerseys knitted, so many yards of cloth woven, so many articles of furniture made. Even for me to say, it is our pride that we make every article of clothing we use except some hats, that we make every brush, mat or basket, every bit of furniture we need, that, in fact, if we cannot produce the things ourselves we go without, does not carry the mind much further, but who knows or can reckon the pride and pleasure the making of these has brought to the boys and girls who have done the work and to the teacher who has made this making possible? One reason, apart from output, why I always encourage the use of machines for our boys and girls is the big help these are to their pride and self-respect. We want every one of our boys and girls to feel himself or herself one of the links in a great team working together, each in his place, to make excellently a good thing, the well-being and life of our community.

The
Psychology of
work.

To make a shirt by hand may mean a week's work for a girl. By the end of the week she is tired of the sight of that shirt and loathes the idea of starting on another next week. Give her a machine and she makes say a dozen shirts. That is a pile to look at with pleasure when the end of the week comes, and there is fun in seeing who can turn out the biggest pile of well-made shirts. But for the fact that we should get too many shirts and other things, I would recommend that sewing machines should be worked by power instead of by treadle.

We need so many suits of clothes and coats that although several of the patients only make button-holes and get no further at tailoring work yet the number required is so great that the monotony of making countless button-holes became intolerable for the others. We bought a second-hand button-hole machine, which is a boon. Each girl who makes part of a suit has now to make her own button-holes on it. It is not very good for the machine, but it is good for the girls. We have added one more semi-automatic iron loom to the Weaving Shop, which is now quite full. The larger of the wooden looms has been occupied throughout the year in making various coloured and patterned quilts for the beds.

Button-hole
machine.

We want more orders for the goods we make.

We have increased our sales of brushes, baskets, and mats, but I should still be glad to have more orders for these articles, and I hope that everyone who takes an interest in the Institution, and everyone who knows a patient here, will help us by getting these things from us. It is no trouble to us to send them, we are always glad to do it. As a general rule, customers will get a thoroughly strong article, and although, owing to the nature of our craftsmen we cannot guarantee every single article, yet we can and do promise to replace anything that may prove defective in use.

Outbreak of fire.

Early in January, a fire occurred in the Third Class Boys' Lavatory, which fortunately was soon put out once our Fire Brigade got to work. It was evident afterwards that it broke out in the overcoat cupboard belonging to this Class. Some of the boys had been to Bridge Home for one of the football matches that decide which place shall hold the Football Shield for the ensuing year. On the way back in the bus they had naturally been smoking. No pipes were missing when they were counted, but it almost seems as though in some way the smoking was the cause of the outbreak. It was noticed about half-an-hour after the coats had been put away. The day staff had gone off duty and the patients were all in bed. Cupboards were burned out, including their contents, and damage done to paint, woodwork, and glass amounting to about £83; but fortunately the fire spread no further and everyone behaved excellently.

The 16th Colchester Guides.

The second Institution Guide Company was glad to welcome back as their Captain, Miss Sanders, R.R.C., though very sorry for the ill-health which caused Miss Beard to resign. Miss Beard has given up a great deal of her own time for the good of the Company. We are also indebted to Miss Money and Miss Bloomfield, who took charge part of the time; and to Miss Reynolds who has come down regularly to teach dancing. This Company has twenty-eight Second Class and Proficiency Badges.

The Cinema.

The Cinema has been much appreciated, and the Patients' Brass Band has brightened many days, and played outside at the usual Flower Shows.

Average weekly cost.

The average inclusive cost for each patient in 1926 was 20s. a week, against 19s. 10d. in 1925.



A SCHOOL PICNIC.

ON GUARD OVER LUNCH.



11th COLCHESTER GUIDES GIVE A TEA PARTY.

But for the coal strike, the average weekly cost would have been reduced. The coal bill for the year was £1350 higher than in 1925, although the price of coal during the early months of last year was lower than in the corresponding period of the previous year. At the beginning of May we had at the Main Institution enough steam coal in stock to last nearly six months. The branches had much less as they have no storage space, and I had not stocked coke which we use for central heating in the winter months, thinking that by the time we wanted this the strike would be over. The extraordinary prices everyone had to pay for coal and coke during the latter part of the year explains how the coal strike alone raised the average cost of each patient for each week throughout the year, by nearly sixpence a head. Even now in February, 1927, we are paying about seven shillings a ton more for steam coal than we did a year ago.

Coal Bill.

Wholesale prices for groceries and other foods were on the whole lower, and the saving in provisions would have been greater but for the improvements in the dietary which are gradually being made. The recommendations contained in the Report of the Departmental Committee on Dietaries in Mental Hospitals have been carefully considered, and many of them are gradually being carried out. For instance, a Hobart Electric Mixer was bought in 1925, and has made a great improvement in the appearance and tastiness of the food. To have introduced all the alterations recommended in the Report in one year would have raised the weekly cost considerably, but advantage has been taken of falling prices to improve matters gradually. The chief additions have been in bacon and sausage for breakfast, butter, milk, and oranges. None of these have been added to the dietary of the whole population of the Institution at one time. The classes that most seemed to need and to be able best to use any of these items were given them first. It would not be any good giving the lower grade children's classes bacon for breakfast, so they do not have it, but they are given butter, oranges and more milk. In commencing any new article of diet like butter or oranges, a start has been made first with the children and the lower grade classes, and afterwards the use has gradually been extended. At the present time seventy-five per cent. of the patients have four ounces of butter a week in addition to dripping and margarine. Sixty per cent. have bacon for

Improvements
in the dietary.

breakfast once a week, sixty-four per cent. have sausage for breakfast once a week, seventy-seven per cent. have two oranges a week.

Home made brawn is now provided with the help of the Hobart Machine, and is much liked for breakfast by the higher grade classes. Two classes have Marmite. The milk has been much increased in the children's classes, and the supply of green vegetables to all classes is now satisfactory. Over 22,000 lettuce were grown and used, in fact several classes became so tired of lettuce that we had to supply vinegar and pepper for tea to get them eaten. Over 33,000 cabbages, savoys and cauliflowers were eaten, and over five tons of jam and marmalade were made and eaten in addition to bought jam.

Football.

The football teams have played three or four matches each week during the season. The contest for the House Shield between Colchester and Bridge Home is always exciting. Three matches are played. This year the contest ended in a draw, so each hold the shield for six months.

Entertainments.

Concerts given by friends from outside and concerts given by our own people are always much enjoyed. Whist drives, dances and athletic sports were held as usual. Guy Fawkes' Day was very wet, and the blackmail levied by the Guys for the Amusement Fund, was a little less at £12. On the invitation of the Deputy Mayor (Councillor A. W. Piper), a large number of the patients were able to see "The Mikado," which was given by the Colchester Operatic Society. They enjoyed it immensely.

Christmas Day.

Christmas is the great day of the year, and I am very grateful to the many subscribers who sent me over £114, with which to buy the Christmas presents and the extras for that day, as well as to all those who sent gifts in kind. The day begins with the postman who has Christmas cards for everyone. The morning is taken up with the giving of Christmas boxes to all who work, and making a round of the class rooms and admiring the many beautiful schemes of decoration. Dinner of roast beef and plum pudding, and dessert is an eye-opener to those who think they have a good appetite, but have not seen a Christmas Day at the Institution. All day there is tremendous excitement and noise. In the afternoon Father Christmas arrives. He has

grown a fine white beard and hair, and is preceded by the Band and many helpers in fantastic costumes. Magically the curtains covering the enormous tree are drawn aside, and for two hours and a-half Father Christmas has a hot time seeing that everyone in the hall gets a present from the Tree, with sweets and oranges. From tea time till after twelve there are dancing, songs, and all sorts of competitions. At one time all the family could gather in the Recreation Hall. Now that has been outgrown and the branches have their Trees and Father Christmas in their own homes.

Christmas, however, will for many years bring back to our minds the passing of Mrs. E. P. Ridley, of Ipswich, who died early in 1927, a few weeks after sending in her record number of dolls and toys.

The late
Mrs. E. P.
Ridley

It was in 1903 that Mrs. Ridley first conceived the idea of persuading her friends to provide and dress dolls so that each Christmas all the girls here might have a doll. It was a very kindly thought, and in the last twenty-four years these dolls have given an immense amount of pleasure. For those not having much knowledge of our girls, it would be difficult to imagine the joy with which grown-up women forty and fifty years old will receive and cherish a doll. Mrs. Ridley knew, and all these years this knowledge has sustained her in her efforts to increase the amount of pleasure she ensured each Christmas and for months afterwards. We are indebted to her, to her friends, and to all those she drew within her circle of contributors for nearly six thousand dolls.

In my report for last year I began the history of a most interesting experiment in the attempt to control outbreaks of Diphtheria in a large institution, and I can now finish the story I then began, and give the full details of what at present seems to be a successful effort to cope with this disease.

Control of
Diphtheria

For several years up to the middle of 1925, we have had frequent small outbreaks of Diphtheria. In 1924 there were fifteen apparently separate outbreaks with a total of twenty cases, and in the early part of 1925 there were at different times six patients, and eleven members of the Staff down with mild attacks of the same thing. Of the

whole thirty-seven cases only two were serious, but it was obvious that at any time a severe epidemic might start. We seemed to restrict each outbreak as it occurred, by prompt isolation of contacts and by the taking of many swabs. At each outbreak one or two carriers were found, but it was not clear these could have been the cause of the outbreaks. They were sent with the actual cases of Diphtheria to the local Infectious Hospital, and several of them spent many pleasant and idle months there, till at length we tired of paying for them. Then the virulence of the bacillus in their throats was tested; they proved to be non-virulent. They returned to the Institution and they did not appear to be connected with any of the further outbreaks.

It was obvious, however, that something must be done to try and check the trouble. Apart from illness to the individual patient, the constant alarms and quarantining were upsetting all regular work and classes.

Schick Test
for
Diphtheria.

After a good deal of consideration, it was decided to try the Schick Test, and operations began in the summer of 1925. Before making any test, the Assistant Medical Superintendent, Dr. Munro, had the advantage of receiving instruction and experience from the director of the Burroughs Wellcome Physiological Laboratory, Dr. O'Brien, to whom we are much indebted. The whole of the testing and injections have been carried out by Dr. Munro personally, and the complete absence of bad results are I believe, due to the extreme care with which he attended to all the details of treatment.

The friends of every patient had a full explanation of method sent them, and only those patients whose friends gave their consent were tested.

By means of the Schick Test it is possible to decide whether individuals are liable to catch Diphtheria or are immune. Those who prove susceptible can, in most cases, be made immune by the injection of a Diphtheria toxin-antitoxin mixture. The test consists in injecting into the left arm a minute dose of a standardised diluted toxin, and into the right arm as a control, the same amount of diluted toxin, which has been heated. The local reaction to the



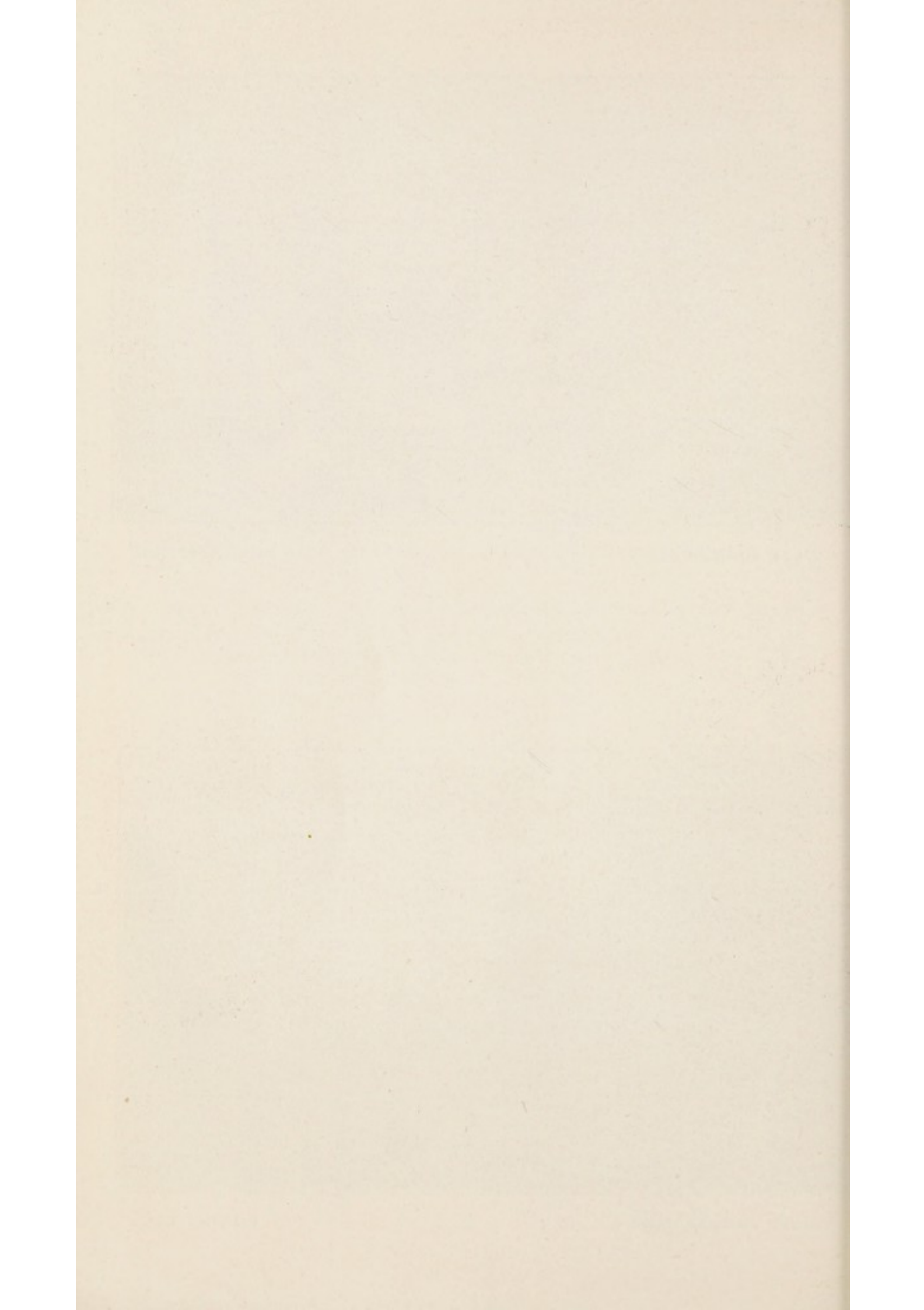
GUIDES' SUMMER CAMP.

KIT INSPECTION.



GUIDES' SUMMER CAMP.

FILLING BEDS.



injections is watched day by day, and from the character of this it is decided whether the patient is likely to catch Diphtheria or not.

We have now tested 1037 patients, and 47 Staff. The following are the results:—

Results of
Shick Test.

PATIENTS.

Age.		Number Tested.	Positive Reaction.	Percentage of Positive Reactions.
Under 5 years	...	7	3	42.8 per cent.
5 to under 10 years	...	48	16	33.0 " "
10 to under 15 years	...	157	42	26.7 " "
Over 15 years	...	825	187	22.6 " "
Total		1037	248	23.9 " "

STAFF.

Number Tested.	Positive Reaction.	Percentage of Positive Reactions.
47	18	38 per cent.

It will be seen that the younger the patient, the higher the percentage of positive reactions, though the number of those tested under 5 years is too few to be of any value. The curious thing, however, is the high percentage of positive reactions amongst the Staff.

The whole of the 266 cases that proved to be positive, were then given injections of Diphtheria toxin-antitoxin. The first injection was 0.5 cc followed by two other injections of 1.0 cc each at intervals of seven days. Most of the patients were given Calcium Lactate before and after the injections. All were kept in bed for the rest of the day, and were not allowed up while they had a raised temperature. We were fortunate in not having a single bad arm from the test itself, and only three reactions of moderate severity occurred with the preventive inoculations. Two of these were in the Staff. Many of the patients were low grade, both mentally and physically, and these results are satisfactory.

Immunisa-
tion.

No further cases of Diphtheria have occurred since the middle of 1925. This may be only a coincidence, but we hope it is a proof that we may now be said to be free from the risk of any big outbreak of Diphtheria. It will be necessary no doubt to protect new admissions by the same method, and it will not do to swab every case of mild Tonsillitis that comes along, or you may find carriers. Theoretically, at any rate, so far as the Institution itself is concerned, you may safely have Diphtheria carriers both virulent and non-virulent.

Admissions.

The number of admissions in 1926 was 119, three fewer than in 1925. In the last four years 563 patients have been received, a large and almost terrifying number. We can only be glad that we have been able to provide such a number with the care and protection they so urgently needed, and at the same time examine ourselves to try and find out if we have done our duty by them, if they are really happier and better for being with us.

Re-elections.

Fourteen patients already in the Institution have been re-elected for a further term of seven years, and twenty-five not yet re-elected, but still needing care, are being retained at the expense of the charitable funds till they are successful.

Types of Admissions.

Thirty of the new admissions came in under the Education Acts, and were therefore all children. Nearly all were high grade mentally with fair prospects of improvement under skilled teaching. Sixteen were cases sent from a magistrate's court, before which they had appeared for some offence. Fortunately, nowadays both police and magistrates are alive to the possibility that people may be brought before them who are not really criminals, but only defectives who may have done something that is illegal for the rest of us. These doubtful cases are therefore remanded for a mental examination by a specialist, and if they prove to be defective they are not sent to prison, but to an institution where they can be cared for, not punished. In a few cases the offence is serious, but in most it is due more to the mental defect than to any real vice. Nearly all these cases are high grade, most of them are little trouble in an institution with its regular life and discipline, and they become good workers. Nineteen of the remainder were quite low grade mentally,

hospital cases requiring care. Twenty-one were quiet and happy medium grade patients able to learn something, but not much. Thirty-three were higher grade, all of them able to work, many of them unstable in conduct.

The number of discharges during the year was 43, but of these only six left institution care for their own homes. Four of the six were children who had been received under the Education Acts, and who it was thought should be given a trial outside. The fifth was a small child received temporarily to give the mother a rest, and the sixth a girl who had been doing extremely well in service for over three years. She was a steady quiet girl, and it was felt that for her own sake and for the encouragement of the others, she should be given complete freedom. Twenty-one were technically discharged under one Act of Parliament, and at once re-admitted under the Mental Deficiency Act. Fifteen went to other Institutions. Most of these were quiet, well-behaved women who could properly be cared for in a simpler type of institution, but two went to a Mental Hospital. Both of these had previously been in a Mental Hospital, and more properly belonged there. One, a high grade youth, who for years supported himself no doubt by much petty thieving, escaped, and was not recaptured while the original certificates remained valid. He needed detention in a different type of institution to this.

The number of deaths was 17, eleven less than in the previous year. This is the lowest number of deaths since 1914, but in that year the average number resident was 394, and last year it was 1111. On the average number resident the death rate was 1.53 per cent. compared with 2.62 per cent. in 1925, and 5.33 per cent. the average death rate since the foundation of the Institution in 1859. The rate for 1926 is, with one exception, the lowest in the history of the Institution. Of the total number under care the death rate was 1.41 per cent. against 2.43 per cent. in the previous year.

The Tubercular death rate was 0.81 per cent. on the average number resident against 0.84 per cent. in 1925. Only two years have had a lower rate since the Institution began to increase in numbers. Up to 1905 the average rate was 4.6 per cent.

Causes of death.

The causes of death were as follows:—Tuberculosis 9; Pneumonia 1; Influenza 2; Bronchitis 1; Encephalitis Lethargica 1; Volvulus 1; Acute Gastro-enteritis 1; Paralytic Distension of the Intestine 1.

Influenza and other infections.

In the early part of the year we had a mild epidemic of Influenza affecting 196 patients of whom two died. There were only four cases of Pneumonia during the year, one dying. The case of Encephalitis Lethargica was a severe one at our Upper Girls' School. Fortunately there were no other cases. We had a mild epidemic of Chicken-pox amongst the small children, with thirty-four cases, all of whom recovered. There were two cases of German Measles, and two of Erysipelas. We were fortunate to escape with only two new cases of Dysentery, and three very mild relapses in patients already isolated in our separate Dysentery Ward. One patient is down as dying from Gastro-enteritis, but the actual cause of death is still obscure. He was ill only one day, and during that time he was seen by five doctors, all of whom thought he had a perforated Gastric Ulcer. He was being prepared for operation when he died. At the post-mortem examination no perforation was found and the small abdominal appearances there were pointed towards a Gastro-enteritis.

There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year, and only one case of Scarlet Fever, one of the Staff.

Tuberculosis.

At the beginning of the year eleven patients were under treatment for various forms of Tuberculosis, and sixteen fresh cases or relapses occurred. Nine of the twenty-seven died, and thirteen remained under treatment at the end of the year.

X-ray photographs. Operations.

Twelve X-ray photographs were taken during the year, and five major operations were performed for various reasons.

Luminal treatment of Epilepsy.

We have continued the treatment of a large proportion of our epileptic patients with Luminal. The number of patients classed as epileptic was 139 against 140 in the previous year. They had between them a total of 6323 fits, against a total of 7960 fits in 1925. The average number of

fits was in 1926 forty-five fits for each epileptic patient; in 1925 fifty-seven fits; while in 1924, before we started Luminal, the average number was ninety. My opinion is still that Luminal does not cure the epileptic, but it is a great help in lessening the number of attacks in the majority of cases, and that it does in many cases materially improve them both mentally and physically.

The clergy of the various parishes, in which anyone of the establishments is situated continue to give much voluntary help, and we are very grateful to them. Mr. Thomas of St. Paul's takes two Bible classes a week. Mr. Hirst of St. James', and Mr. Campbell, the Vicar of Witham, take one each. One advantage of the number of branches amongst which the Institution is distributed, is that so many more patients can go to their respective churches. In this way every patient capable of appreciating a religious service at any of our branches, is able to go twice each Sunday. From the main Institution all who can understand go once on Sunday, and about one hundred and eighty twice, the rest attending services in the Institution. Girls who have been confirmed take it in turn to go unattended once a month to the early morning service of Holy Communion. Roman Catholic patients attend Mass, and the Rev. Father Clarke frequently visits them. The Clergy.

Dr. Munro, the Deputy Medical Superintendent, and Dr. Cowper continue to help in every way with the greatest willingness. I am much indebted to them. Both have lectured and taken demonstrations for the examination of the Medico-Psychological Association. Sixteen of the Staff, out of twenty-two who entered, have passed the Preliminary Examinations. Thanks.

I have continued to serve on the Committee appointed by the Board of Education to enquire into various aspects of Mental Deficiency.

I am very grateful to you for the confidence you place in me. It considerably lightens my burden to know that on all occasions I have your sympathy and support, and that you invariably give the most favourable consideration to any of my suggestions.

Numbers.

The following changes have taken place amongst the patients during the year:—

				MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
On 1st January, 1926.						
	there were at the Institution ..	...	...	617	464	1081
The admissions during the year were ...				60	59	119
The total number under care was ...				677	523	1200
				Males.	Females.	Total.
The discharges were				23	20	43
The deaths were ...				7	10	17
				30	30	60
On the first January, 1927, there remained ...				647	493	1140

The average daily number of patients on the register was 1111, or 45 more than in 1925, 251 more than in 1923, and 613 more than ten years ago.

The total number under care during the year was just 1200, and on the last day of the year 1140.

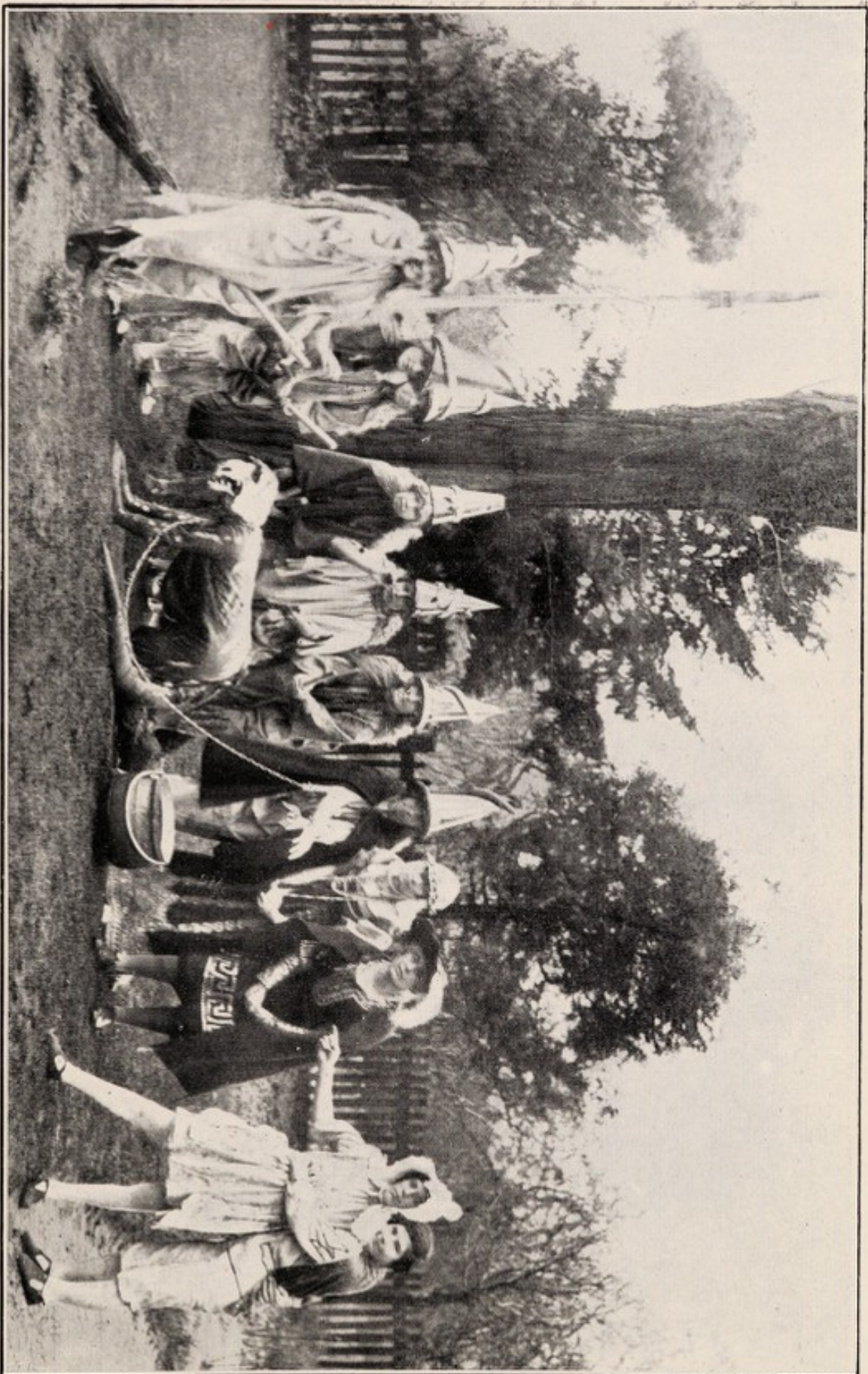
I have the honour to be,

My Lords, Dame Catherine and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

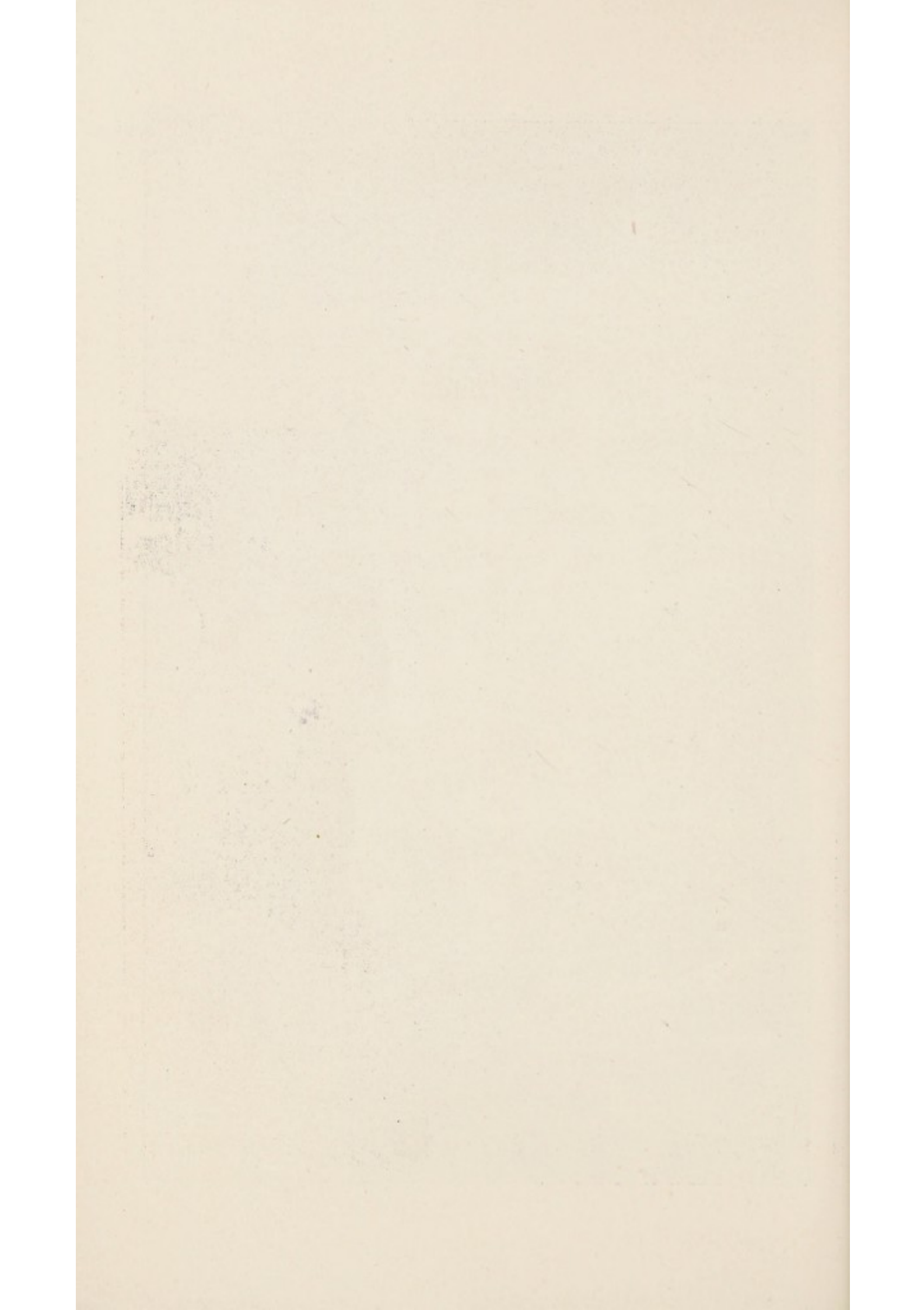
F. DOUGLAS TURNER,

M.B. (Lond.). M.R.C.S. (Eng.). L.R.C.P. (Lond.),
Medical Superintendent.



BEWARE OF THE WITCHES OF THE GLEN.

FROM THE UPPER GIRLS' SCHOOL PLAY.



Broad Street House,

London, E.C.2,

February 17th, 1927.

To the Board of Directors of

**The Royal Eastern Counties' Institution,
Colchester.**

GENTLEMEN,

We have audited the Books and Accounts of this Institution for the year ended December 31st, 1926, and have pleasure in reporting that we have found them in excellent order. We have verified the Securities held by the Institution, and the Cash Balances as on December 31st, 1926. The outstanding Balances, in the hands of Country Bankers and the Ladies' Associations, amounting to £1885 8s. 2d., have, with the exception of £4 4s. 1d., been paid to the Treasurer since the end of the year.

Yours faithfully,

IMPEY, CUDWORTH, LAKIN-SMITH, GOODE & CO.,

Chartered Accountants,

Auditors.

INCOME AND

<i>Income.</i>				1926.			1925.		
		£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.	
To Ladies' Associations	...	4,125	14 8						
Less Expenses	...	105	5 9						
				4,020	8 11		4,087	11 11	
„ New Annual Subscriptions	...			47	12 6		44	7 6	
„ Renewed Annual Subscriptions	...			1,019	17 6		964	5 0	
„ Donations	...			1,065	7 5		433	10 7	
„ Collections in Churches and Chapels	...			5	2 3		6	9 0	
„ Dividends on Investments	...			1,853	8 5		1,804	14 6	
„ Payments for patients :—									
From Local and other Statutory Authorities	...			48,815	17 0		46,048	3 10	
From Private Sources	...			3,865	0 6		3,901	8 0	
„ Proceeds of Profitable Industrial Occupations	...			1,251	6 2		1,221	13 5	
„ Farm and Garden Account :—									
Sale of Produce	...	1,141	6 11						
Value of Produce supplied to Institution	...	2,903	19 4						
				4,045	6 3		4,619	15 7	
„ Board of Education Grant, for 1926	...			114	2 7		147	19 10	
„ Teachers Superannuation Act Contributions due to Board of Education	...			54	0 7		31	15 3	
				<u>£66,157 10 1</u>			<u>£63,311 14 5</u>		

Examined and found correct,

IMPEY, CUDWORTH, LAKIN-SMITH, GOODE, & Co.,

Chartered Accountants,

Auditors.

17th February, 1927.

EXPENDITURE DURING 1926 and 1925.

				Expenditure.			1926.			1925.		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By	Salaries and Wages	...	...	...	...	...	17,357	12	5	16,597	12	11
„	Office Salaries	...	...	...	...	...	1,273	19	6	1,272	10	6
„	Pensions	...	...	...	...	...	165	3	5	151	17	6
„	Provisions	...	...	...	...	...	16,063	6	9	17,241	1	6
„	Clothing	...	...	...	...	...	4,205	10	0	3,333	3	3
„	Uniform	...	...	...	...	...	291	18	11	268	10	8
„	Medical Requisites and Drugs	...	...	...	...	...	494	4	7	577	18	0
„	Furniture and Bedding	...	...	...	...	...	3,078	15	3	3,049	17	1
„	Fuel	...	...	...	...	...	4,370	3	1	3,023	19	8
„	Electricity and Gas	...	...	...	...	...	825	2	3	830	0	4
„	Water	...	...	...	...	...	235	8	9	299	6	5
„	Washing and Cleaning Articles and other necessities	...	...	...	...	...	1,324	11	1	1,579	14	0
„	Travelling Expenses and Expenses of Conveyance, Removal and Burial of Patients	...	...	...	...	...	499	9	7	503	3	11
„	Books, Postage, Printing, Stationery and Advertisements	...	...	...	...	...	1,143	19	11	1,044	2	2
„	Rates, Taxes and Insurance	...	...	...	...	...	2,705	18	11	2,422	14	3
„	Maintenance and Repairs of Buildings and Machinery	...	...	...	...	...	2,397	9	6	2,275	7	7
„	Rents	...	...	...	...	...	681	0	0	664	6	8
„	Industries :—											
	Wages on Profitable Occupations	...	...	...	319	16	0					
	Materials	...	...	...	883	2	3					
							1,202	18	3	1,229	8	9
„	Farm and Garden :—											
	Wages	...	...	...	1,589	16	3					
	Live Stock Purchased	...	...	...	796	5	0					
	Provender, Seeds and Manures	...	...	...	1,723	4	3					
	Other Items	...	...	...	665	6	6					
							4,774	12	0	4,443	15	6
„	Bank Charges	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	4	10	10
„	Elections, Public Meetings, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	168	7	10	114	17	11
							£63,259	12	0	£60,927	19	5

Special Expenditure.

(Not included in Average Weekly Cost).

New Workroom	...	...	...	...	2,817	6	10	2,080	14	5
					£66,076	18	10	£63,008	13	10
Balance of Income during 1926 and 1925 carried to credit of Reserve Fund	...			...	80	11	3	303	0	7
					£66,157	10	1	£63,311	14	5
Net Average Weekly Cost per head per Patient	...	...	...	...	20/-			19/10		
Average number of Patients on books	...			...	1111			1066		

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors,

HUNTINGFIELD, Vice-Chairman.

E. C. RANSOME, Member.

N. de H. TUFNELL, Treasurer.

ARTHUR TURNER, Secretary.

BALANCE SHEET OF PERMANENT

17th February, 1927.

ENDOWMENT FUND, 1926.**King Edward VII. when Prince of Wales.**

	Cr.	£	s.	d.
By Balance at Credit of this Fund, 1st January, 1926	...	52,746	5	0
„ Donations	...	91	19	3
		<u>£52,838</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

1927.

Jan. 1st. By Balance brought down	...	45,177	14	1
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ENDOWMENT FUND, 31st DECEMBER, 1926.

	Cr.	£	s.	d.
By India 4½ per cent. Stock 1950/55 (£4,333 0s. 6d. at average cost 91½ per cent.)	...	3,954	3	8
„ India 3 per cent. "Patmore Charity" (£1,080 18s. 10d., at cost 98½ per cent.)	...	1,060	13	6
„ 2½ per cent. Consols (£2,393 12s. 7d. at average cost 83½ per cent.)	...	2,004	12	2
„ Conversion Loan 3½ per cent. (£1431 13s. 0d. at average cost 77½ per cent.)	...	1,108	15	9
„ 4 per cent. Funding Stock, 1960/90 (£1250 at average cost 80 per cent.)	...	1,000	0	0
„ New South Wales 5 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1935/55 (£3,000 at average cost of 97½ per cent.)	...	2,925	0	0
„ New Zealand 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940 (£3,364 at average cost 103½ per cent.)	...	3,491	6	0
„ Natal 3 per cent. Cons. Stock (£3,724 2s. 9d. at average cost 90 per cent.)	...	3,351	19	0
„ Queensland 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1940/50 (£1,398 1s. 3d. at cost 100½ per cent.)	...	1,405	5	0
„ Queensland 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock, 1945 (£2,821 7s. 7d. at average cost 99½ per cent.)	...	2,800	0	0
„ Canada 3½ per cent. Registered Stock, 1930/50 (£1,286 2s. 3d. at average cost 95½ per cent.)	...	1,232	12	6
„ Southern Railway 5 per cent. Preference Stock (£1,600 at average cost 167½ per cent.)	...	2,683	18	6
„ London & North Eastern Railway 3 per cent. Debenture Stock (£3,000 at average cost 112½ per cent.)	...	3,378	16	6
„ London & North Eastern Railway 4 per cent. Debenture Stock (£3,700 at average cost 139½ per cent.)	...	5,167	18	6
„ Metropolitan Water Board, 3 per cent. B Inscribed Stock, 1924/2003 (£6,000 at average cost 65½ per cent.)	...	3,922	16	0
„ Leicester 4½ per cent. Registered Stock, 1945/55 (£4,000 at average cost 97½ per cent.)	...	3,895	6	0
		<u>£43,383</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
„ Balance uninvested	...	1,794	11	0
		<u>£45,177</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>

The present Market value of these securities is below the cost given above.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors,

HUNTINGFIELD, Vice-Chairman.

E. C. RANSOME, Member.

N. de H. TUFNELL, Treasurer.

ARTHUR TURNER, Secretary.

PECKOVER SCHOOLS*Dr.*

			£	s.	d.
To Temporary Advance repaid to Reserve Fund	...	...	201	14	0

£201 14 0

BALANCE SHEET OF PECKOVER
31st December,

Dr.

			£	s.	d.
To Balance at credit of this Fund, 31st December, 1926	...	...	2,000	0	0

£2,000 0 0

REPAIRS ACCOUNT, 1926.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
By Dividends received during 1926	69	16	0
„ New temporary Advance from Reserve Fund	131	18	0

£201 14 0

SCHOOLS REPAIRS ACCOUNT.

1926.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
By London, Midland and Scottish Railway 4 per cent. Preference Stock (£841 at cost 118 $\frac{8}{100}$ per cent.)	999	2	9
„ India 3½ per cent., Stock (£1,026 18s. 2d. at cost 97 $\frac{3}{8}$ per cent.)	1,000	0	0
„ 2½ per cent. Consols (19s. 7d. at cost 88 $\frac{4}{100}$ per cent.)	0	17	8

£2,000 0 0

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors,

HUNTINGFIELD, *Vice-Chairman.*E. C. RANSOME, *Member.*N. de H. TUFNELL, *Treasurer.*ARTHUR TURNER, *Secretary.*

RESERVE*Dr.*

	£	s.	d.
To Purchase of Additional Land	2,130	15	0
„ Purchase of Hillsleigh (part cost)	220	0	0
„ Additional Staff accommodation at Bridge Home (part cost)	475	0	0
„ Heating new Workroom	157	0	8
„ Balance carried down to 1927	2,960	15	6

£5,943 11 2

BALANCE SHEET**31st December,***Dr.*

	£	s.	d.
To Balance at Credit of this Fund, 31st December, 1926 ...	2,960	15	6

£2,960 15 6

*Examined and found correct,***IMPEY, CUDWORTH, LAKIN-SMITH, GOODE, & Co.,**

Chartered Accountants,

*Auditors.**17th February, 1927.*

FUND, 1926.*Cr.*

	£	s.	d.
By Balance at credit of this Fund, 1st January, 1926	3,402	2	6
„ Legacies	1,112	13	11
„ 5 per cent. War Stock, 1929/47	832	10	0
„ Rents	350	0	0
„ Dividends on Reserve Fund Investments	95	17	6
„ Repayment of Temporary Advance to Peckover Schools Repairs Account, less new Advance	69	16	0
„ Surplus on Income and Expenditure	80	11	3
	<u>£5,943</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>2</u>

1927.

January 1st. By Balance brought down	2,960	15	6
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OF RESERVE FUND.

1926.

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
By Queensland 4 per cent. Inscribed Stock 1940/50 (£1,021 12s. 3d. at average cost 97 $\frac{1}{8}$ % per cent.)	1,000	0	0
„ 5 per cent. War Stock, 1929/47 (£825 2s. 8d., at average cost 100 $\frac{5}{8}$ % per cent.)	832	10	0
„ Ottoman Railway from Smyrna to Aidin 2nd Debenture Stock (£500 at average cost 34 $\frac{1}{10}$ % per cent.)	171	5	0
„ Ottoman Railway from Smyrna to Aidin 2nd Debenture Stock, 1918 issue (£70 at average cost of 25 per cent.)	17	10	0
	<u>£2,021</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>0</u>
„ Balance uninvested	939	10	6
	<u>£2,960</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>6</u>

*The present market value of these securities is below the cost
given above.*

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors,

HUNTINGFIELD, *Vice-Chairman.*

E. C. RANSOME, *Member.*

N. de H. TUFNELL, *Treasurer.*

ARTHUR TURNER, *Secretary.*

GENERAL BALANCE SHEET,

Liabilities.

						£	s.	d.
To Permanent Endowment Fund, as per Statement ...	...	...	...	...	...	45,177	14	1
„ Peckover Schools ...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	0	0
„ Reserve Fund ...	...	...	...	...	...	2,960	15	6

£50,138 9 7

Examined and found correct,

IMPEY, CUDWORTH, LAKIN-SMITH, GOODE, & Co.,

Chartered Accountants,

Auditors.

17th February, 1927.

31st DECEMBER, 1926.

Assets.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Sundry Investments on behalf of Permanent Endowment Fund (at cost)...				43,383	3	1
„ Sundry Investments on behalf of Peckover Schools (at cost)				2,000	0	0
„ Sundry Investments on behalf of Reserve Fund (at cost)				2,021	5	0
„ Treasurer's Balance	2,850	14	6			
„ Deposit Account	1,000	0	0			
„ Supt's. Petty Cash	45	12	0			
„ Balances in hands of Country Bankers ...	294	17	4			
„ Balances in hands of Ladies' Association ...	1,590	10	10			
„ Amounts due on Income Account on 31st Dec., 1926, since paid to Treasurer...	81	7	3			
	5,863	1	11			
Less Amount owing on Expenditure Account at 31st Dec., 1926, paid in January and February, 1927.	3,129	0	5			
				2,734	1	6

£50,138 9 7

Signed on behalf of the Board of Directors,

HUNTINGFIELD, *Vice-Chairman.*E. C. RANSOME, *Member.*N. de H. TUFNELL, *Treasurer.*ARTHUR TURNER, *Secretary.*

APPORTIONMENT OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1926. FOR CHILDREN ON SCHOOL REGISTER.

These figures have been arrived at by calculating the proportion which the number of children on the School Register bears to the number of patients in the Institution and apportioning the expenses in a similar manner.

	£	s.	d.
Salaries and Wages	2843	7	5
Office Salaries	208	10	10
Pensions	26	18	5
Provisions	2631	8	4
Clothing	688	15	1½
Uniform	47	11	8½
Medical Requisites and Drugs	80	15	3
Furniture and Bedding	504	5	10
Fuel	715	17	4
Electricity and Gas	134	19	8
Water	38	9	8½
Washing and Cleaning Articles and other necessities	216	17	8
Travelling Expenses and Expenses of Conveyance, Removal and Burial of Patients	81	14	2½
Books, Postage, Printing, Stationery and Advertisements	187	6	2
Rates, Taxes and Insurance	443	4	11
Maintenance and Repairs of Buildings and Machinery	392	12	6½
Rents	111	9	6
Industries	196	19	6½
Farm and Garden	782	0	7½
Elections, Public Meetings, etc.	27	9	7½
	<hr/> £10,360 14 7 <hr/>		

Average number on School Register ... 182

Net Average weekly cost per head per patient, after excluding cost of Elections and Public Meetings, and deducting proceeds of Industrial Occupations, and Farm and Garden Account ... 20/-

Examined and found correct.

IMPEY, CUDWORTH, LAKIN-SMITH,
GOODE & Co., Chartered Accountants,

February 17th, 1927.

Auditors.



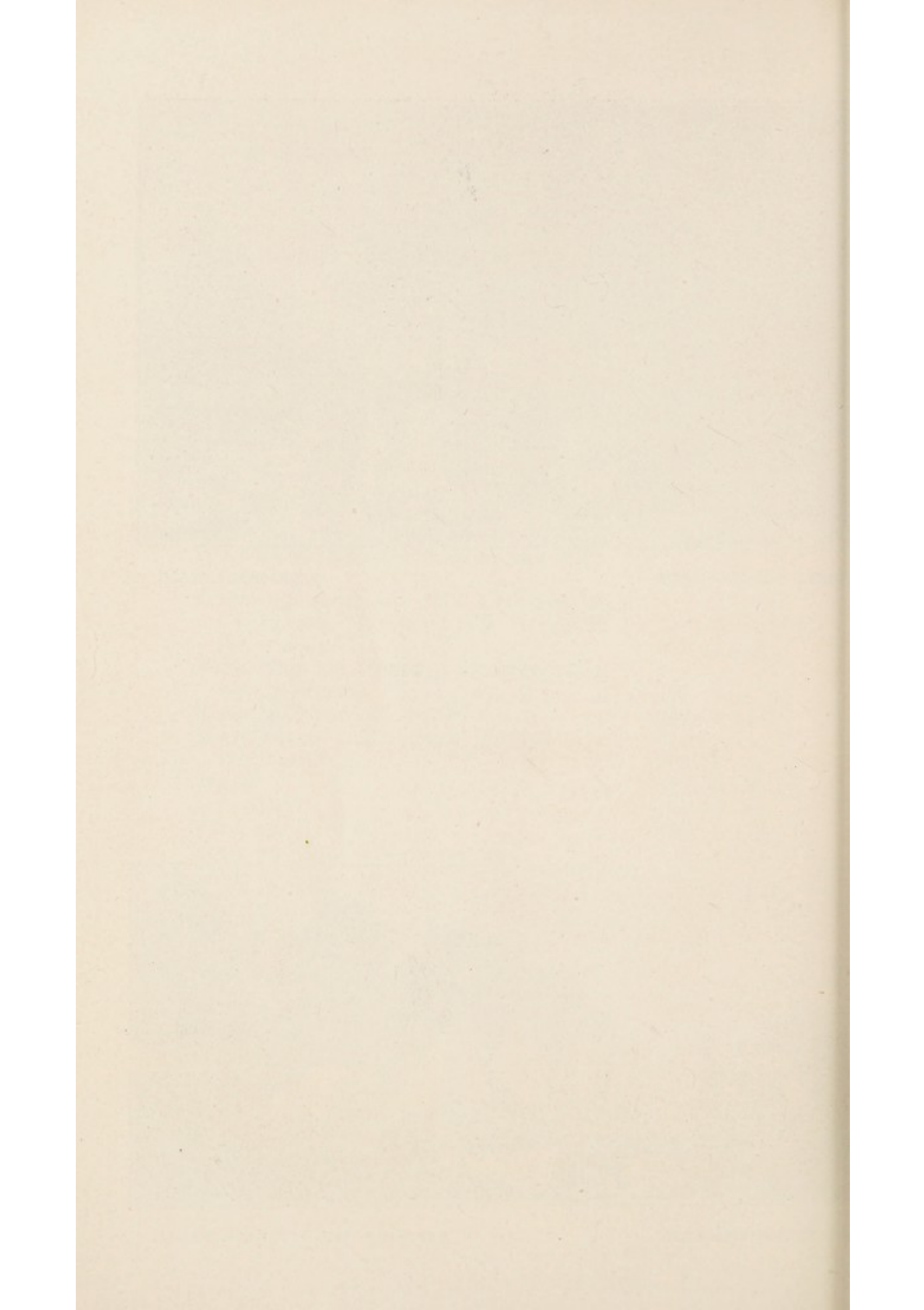
GUIDES' SUMMER CAMP.

A SMALL WASH.



GUIDES' SUMMER CAMP.

STRIKING AND PITCHING TENTS.



WORK DONE.

(Repairs not included, except in Boot Shop.)

CARPENTERS' SHOP.

Shelter with Glass Roof in Playground ...	1	Door Frames ...	6
Large Greenhouse recon- structed ...	1	Doors ...	15
Drapery Stores fitted up	1	Drawers ...	2
Dirty Linen House, in- cluding Windows, Roof and Door ...	1	Fences ...	3
Summer House (large) ...	1	Forms ...	4
Floors laid with wood blocks ...	4	Gates ...	2
Boxes ...	24	Shelves, sets ...	8
Card Index Boxes ...	2	Skylight ...	1
Ceilings, Asbestos Boarded	1	Sideboards ...	1
Ceilings, Matchboarded ...	1	Steps, pairs ...	3
Chairs ...	72	Stools ...	35
Cupboards ...	23	Store Bins, sets ...	4
		Tables ...	20
		Tooth Brush Cases ...	2
		Trolley ...	1
		Window Sashes and Frames ...	11

BRICKLAYERS' AND ENGINEERS' SHOPS.

Rowley House, Witham Bath Room and Wash- place remodelled.	fixed on Hot Water System Main Institution.		
New Basins, floor, and tiling.	New Water supply to Cow- house, with automatic drinking bowls.		
Dirty Linen House built for Hospital at Witham, with Copper and Wash Tub.	Four Breeding Styes for Pigs.		
Three additional Staff Bedrooms constructed.	New Steam Calorifier, and R e s e r v e Hot Water Cylinder put in at Witham.		
Vegetable Store built.	Fence ...	1	
Heating System with 15 Radiators, and Boiler in- s t a l l e d in New Nursery.	Guards ...	2	
Additional Reserve Cylinder	Radiators fixed ...	3	
	New Stoves fixed ...	3	
	New W.C.'s fixed ...	3	

TAILORS' SHOPS.

Suits	...	...	...	354	Girls' Coats	...	...	57
Trousers	...	...	...	102	Capes	...	...	69
Knickers	...	...	...	461	Overalls	...	...	61
Overcoats	...	...	...	64				

MAT SHOP

Mats and Rugs	...	...	662	Mattresses	...	...	679
Kneelers	...	...	47	Pillows	...	...	299
Sash Cord, yards	...	...	696	Vegetable Bags	...	...	24

SHOEMAKERS' SHOP.

Boots made, pairs	...	1494	Boots patched, pairs	...	1546
Boots soled, pairs	...	4266	Boots repaired, pairs	...	9858
Boots heeled, pairs	...	6332			

NEEDLEWORK DEPARTMENT.

Bags and Cases	...	...	15	Jerseys	...	...	274
Bed, Couch and Cushion				Neckties	...	...	703
Covers	...	...	125	Night Dresses	...	...	770
Bed and Pillow Ticks	...	...	496	Overalls	...	...	2
Bodices and Blouses	...	...	69	Petticoats and Skirts	...	...	266
Caps	...	...	277	Pillowslips	...	...	1195
Chemises & Combinations	...	...	750	Pinafores and Aprons	...	...	1681
Coats	...	...	9	Rugs, Turkey	...	...	19
Collars and Cuffs	...	...	88	Scarves, woollen	...	...	7
Counterpanes	...	...	33	Sheets and Bed Pieces	...	...	1506
Crochet, D'Oyleys	...	...	6	Shirts, Day	...	...	886
Crochet Yokes	...	...	3	Shirts, Night	...	...	647
Crochet Tea Cloths	...	...	5	Sleeves	...	...	703
Curtains and Blinds	...	...	43	Stays	...	...	112
Dish Cloths	...	...	120	Stockings and Socks			
Drawers, Pants, and				pairs	...	...	2057
Knickers	...	...	1334	Table and Tea Cloths	...	...	1350
Dresses and Tunics	...	...	670	Towels	...	...	1096
Face Flannels	...	...	1239	Various	...	...	3130
Feeders	...	...	827	Vests	...	...	751
Gloves, pairs of	2	Woollen Coats	14
Hats	85				

BRUSH SHOP.

Brooms and Brushes made	6581
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BASKET SHOP.

Baskets and Hampers made	905
Chairs and Stools, Cane Seated	24

WOOD CARVING.

Carved Trays, Blotters, Photograph Frames, Tables, Plaques, Shields, etc.	195
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

LEATHER WORK.

Leather Bags, Slippers, Wallets, Purses, Cushions, etc.	...	475
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RAFFIA WORK.

Baskets, Mats, Bags, etc.	143
Stools, Raffia Caned	35

WEAVING SHOP.

Cotton and Linen	Tweed	...	...	386 yards
Goods	...	...	1051 yards	

FARM AND GARDEN PRODUCE.

Milk	...	...	10564	gals.	Celery	...	...	1410	sticks
Butter	...	...	1272	lbs.	Cucumbers	...	...	815	
Eggs	...	...	30057		Leeks	...	...	202	bush.
Chickens	...	...	256		Lettuce	...	...	22338	
Pork	...	...	955	lbs.	Marrows	...	...	1872	
Potatoes	...	...	96	tons	Mustard and Cress	...	...	19	bush.
Beet	...	...	59	bush.	Onions	...	...	178	bush.
Broad Beans	...	...	72	bush.	Parsnips	...	...	151	bush.
Runner Beans	...	...	241	bush.	Peas	...	...	719	pecks.
Broccoli and	...	...			Radishes	...	...	122	bush.
Cauliflowers	...	...	8568		Rhubarb	...	...	28820	sticks
Brussel Sprouts	...	...	180	bush.	Savoys	...	...	5149	
Cabbages	...	...	20055		Swedes & Turnips	...	...	91	bush.
Carrots	...	...	482	pecks.					

FRUIT.

Apples	...	...	307 pecks.	Pears	...	...	17 bush.
Currants, Black	...	...	46 lbs.	Plums	...	...	1565 lbs.
Currants, Red	...	...	252 lbs.	Raspberries	...	...	232 lbs.
Damsons	...	...	14 pecks.	Strawberries	...	...	85 lbs.
Gooseberries	...	...	3824 lbs.	Tomatoes	...	...	1819 lbs.
Grapes	...	...	554 bnch.				
Jam and Marmalade made				...	...	...	5 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons.

Bankers—

BARCLAYS BANK, LIMITED, COLCHESTER.

London (Head Office)—54, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.

All the Banks in the Eastern Counties receive Subscriptions, or they may
be paid to the following parties:—

BECCLES	...	...	Mr. J. P. LARKMAN.
BILLERICAY	...	...	Mr. JOHN AYLETT.
BRAINTREE	...	...	Mr. H. G. COBB.
BRENTWOOD	...	...	Colonel F. LANDON, V.D., D.L.
BURY ST. EDMUNDS	...	...	Miss ORD.
CAMBRIDGE	...	...	Miss FRANCES SCRUBY.
COLCHESTER	...	...	Mr. FRANK GRIMWADE.
DISS	...	...	Mr. W. M. THOMAS.
FAKENHAM	...	...
FRAMLINGHAM	...	...	Mr. F. G. LING.
HADLEIGH	...	...	Mrs. GRIMWADE.
HAVERHILL	...	...	Mr. CHARLES BOARDMAN.
IPSWICH	...	...
KING'S LYNN	...	...
LOWESTOFT	Mr. VICTOR J. CHADD and Mr. J. ARTHUR NICHOLSON.
MALDON and HEYBRIDGE	Miss J. S. FREEMAN.
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ONGAR	Mr. J. P. FENN.
SOUTHEND	
SOUTHMINSTER	Miss RICHMOND.
YARMOUTH, GREAT	Mr. ERNEST B. BLAKE.

THE ROYAL EASTERN COUNTIES' INSTITUTION.

Form of Remittance for Donation or Subscription.

TO THE SECRETARY, ROYAL EASTERN COUNTIES' INSTITUTION, COLCHESTER.

I enclose herewith cheque for.....guineas as an

Annual Subscription (or) Donation.

Name.....

Address.....

Date.....

Annual Subscribers of £10 10s. 0d. are entitled to ...	20 Votes.	Donors of £105 0s. 0d. are entitled to ...	20 Votes.
" £5 5s. 0d. ...	10 "	" £52 10s. 0d. ...	10 "
" £2 2s. 0d. ...	4 "	" £21 0s. 0d. ...	4 "
" £1 1s. 0d. ...	2 "	" £10 10s. 0d. ...	2 "
" 10s. 6d. ...	1 "	" £5 5s. 0d. ...	1 "

[P.T.O.]

THE ROYAL EASTERN COUNTIES' INSTITUTION.

BANK ORDER FORM FOR SUBSCRIPTION.

When filled up to be returned to The Secretary, Royal Eastern Counties' Institution, Colchester.

Date.....

Please pay now, and on

	s.	d.	
SUBSCRIPTION of £	„		to the ROYAL EASTERN COUNTIES'
INSTITUTION FOR THE MENTALLY DEFECTIVE, COLCHESTER, and Debit my Account			
with that amount.			

Signed.....

To

Messrs.....

Bankers.....



