

**Annual report of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, 1899 : (in two volumes).
Vol. 1.**

Contributors

Metropolitan Asylums Board (London, England)
Jephson, N. A.
White, Edward.
Acworth, W. M. 1850-1925.
Brown, James.
Scovell, Augustus C.
Martineau, P. M.
Myers, A. B. R.
Bourchier, W. S.
Elliot, G. Stanley.
Hill, J. R.
Coupland, Sidney.
W. E., Frere.
Needham, F.
Urmson, G. H.
Bagot, C. S.
Marriott Cooke, E.
Adeane, E. S.

Publication/Creation

London : printed by McCorquodale & Co., 1900.

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/kjfhp369>

License and attribution

Conditions of use: it is possible this item is protected by copyright and/or related rights. You are free to use this item in any way that is permitted by the copyright and related rights legislation that applies to your use. For other uses you need to obtain permission from the rights-holder(s).



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD,

1899

(IN TWO VOLUMES).

VOL. I.



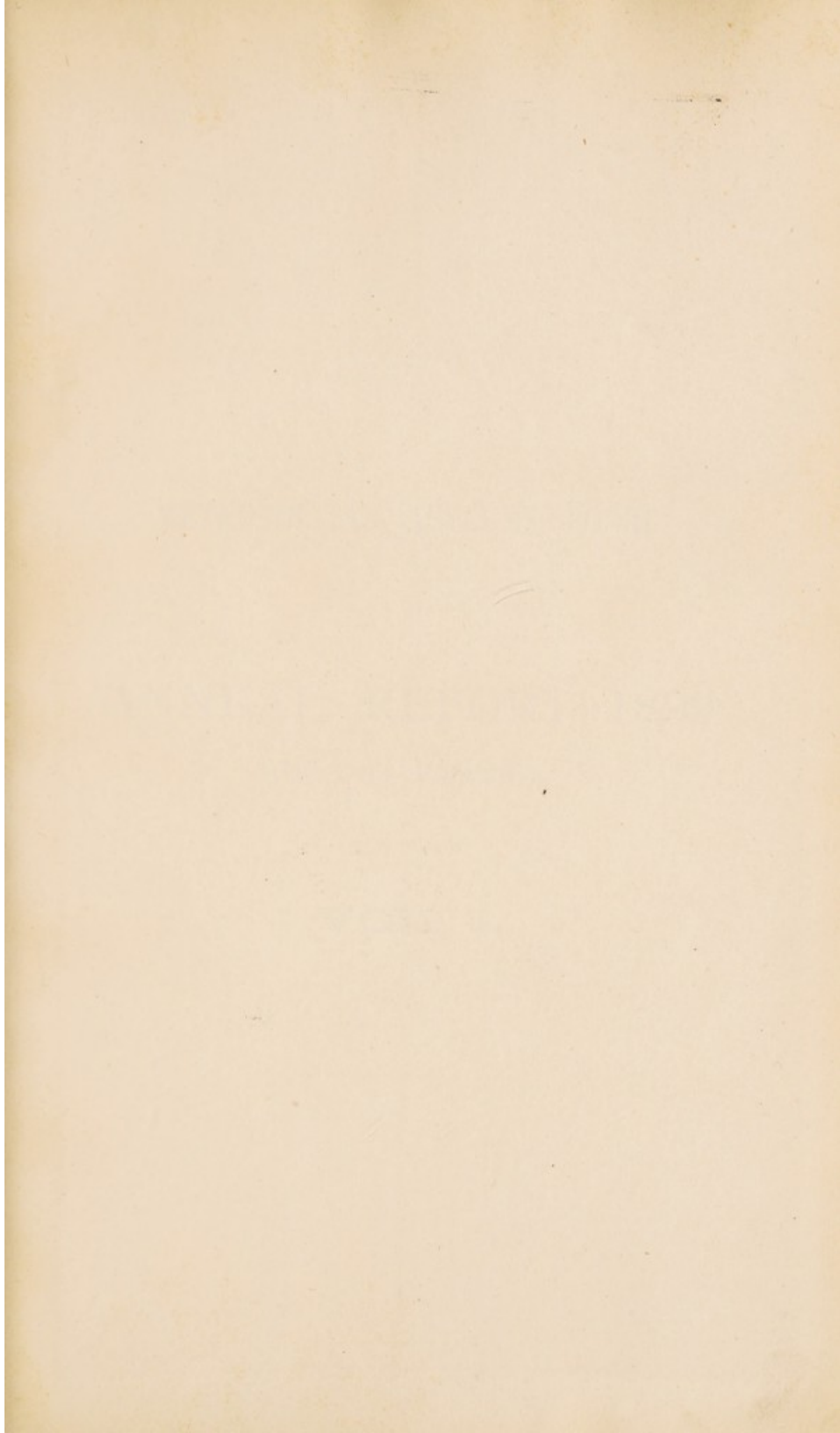
ANN-REP
WX 28
.BE 5
M62
1899


LONDON :
MCCORQUODALE & CO., LIMITED, CARDINGTON STREET, N.W.
1900.

WELLCOME INSTITUTE LIBRARY	
Coll.	we140mec
Call	Ann. Rep
No.	WX 28
	. BE 5
	M 62
	1 8 9 9



22501660360





Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30300253>

METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.

ANNUAL REPORT—1899

(IN TWO VOLUMES).

VOL. I.

MEMORANDUM

ANNUAL REPORT—1899

OF THE

VOL. I



METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD,

1899

(IN TWO VOLUMES).

VOL. I.



LONDON:
MCCORQUODALE & CO., LIMITED CARDINGTON STREET, N.W.
1900.

METROPOLITAN POLICE BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT

METROPOLITAN POLICE BOARD

1899

IN TWO VOLUMES



VOL. I

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

	PAGE
List of Members of the Board, showing the Committees upon which each Member was serving at the close of the year	7
Report of the Board	9
<i>Subjects referred to in the Report :—</i>	
Increase of Board's work	9
Central committees	9
Paris Exhibition	10
Building works	10
Contracts for provisions, clothing, &c.	10
Children's Committee's work	11
Training Ship "Exmouth" Committee's work	11
Asylum statistics	12
Asylums Committee's work	13
Notifications of infectious disease	13
Ambulance Committee's work	13
Hospital statistics	14
Hospital Committee's work	15
Medical instruction	15
Staff	15
Expenditure of Board	15
 Appendices :—	
Annual reports of—	
General Purposes Committee	27
Finance Committee	32
Works Committee	36
Contract Committee	44
Children's Committee	46
Training Ship Committee	51
Asylums Committee	79
Ambulance Committee	97
Hospitals Committee	102

MANAGERS ELECTED BY THE SEVERAL METROPOLITAN BOARDS OF GUARDIANS.
(For the Three Years ending May 15th, 1901.)

UNION OR PARISH.	NAME OF MANAGER.	ADDRESS.	COMMITTEES (AS AT END OF 1899).
Bethnal Green	Barnard, A. P.	309, Hackney Road, N.E.	"Exmouth," Hospitals.
Bloomsbury	Smith, Prof. W. R., M.D., D.S.C., F.R.S. (EDIN.)	74, Great Russell Street, Ecomsbury Square, W.C.	Children's, Hospitals.
Camberwell	Hurst, W. B.	182, The Gardens, Peckham Rye, S.E.	Hospitals.
Chelsea	Street, William	College House School, 56-60, Queen's Rd., Peckham	Asylums, Children's.
City of London	Brass, J. H.	Wentworth Villa, Mauresa Road, Chelsea, S.W.	Children's.
"	Day, F. F. J.	31, Elvaston Place, Queen's Gate, S.W.	Finance, Contract, Children's, Asylums. (Since deceased.)
"	Johanston, W. J.	Corn Exchange Chambers, Seething Lane, E.C.	Works, Ambulance.
"	Lile, J. H.	4, Ludgate Circus, E.C.	Works, "Exmouth," Children's.
"	Monson, Edward, Assoc. M. INST. C.E.	St. James' Place, Garlic Hill, E.C.	Contract, "Exmouth."
"	Wilmoth, John	54-56, Bartholomew Close, E.C.	
Fulham	Hill, J. R., M.B.C.S., L.R.C.P.	Fenstanton, Christchurch Road, Streatham Hill, S.W.	Asylums, Ambulance, Hospitals.
Greenwich	Smith, Edward, J.P.	Buckland Villa, Crescent Road, Brockley, S.E.	Asylums, Hospitals. (Since resigned.)
Hackney	Bates, Thomas	67, Clifton Road, Lower Clapton, N.E.	Hospitals, Children's.
"	Beurie, W. L.	Linden House, 331, Victoria Park Road, N.E.	Children's, "Exmouth," Hospitals.
Hammersmith	Pope, Rev. G. W.	167, Holland Road, Kensington, W.	Finance, Hospitals, Children's.
Hampstead	Hardcastle, John	Upton House, Well Walk, Hampstead, N.W.	Statistical, Asylums, Hospitals.
Holborn	Baker, Miss I. M.	37, Brooke Street, Holborn, E.C.	Contract, Children's, Hospitals.
"	Frankland, William	28, Stockwell Park Crescent, S.W.	Asylums, Hospitals, "Exmouth."
Islington	Elliott, G. S.	14, Upper Street, Islington, N.	Children's.
"	Lambert, Samuel	125, Barnsbury Road, N.	Asylums, Hospitals.
"	Varley, Miss Amelia	82, Newington Green Road, Islington, N.	Hospitals, Children's.
Kennington	Reade, Rev. C. Darby, M.A., J.P.	83, Holland Road, Kensington, W.	Asylums.
"	Webb, Colonel R. F., M.A., D.L., J.P.	6, West Crownwell Road, South Kensington, S.W.	Finance, Finance, Works.
"	Wells, Percy	26, Cambridge Gardens, North Kensington, W.	Finance, Hospitals.
"	Andrew, Captain C. W., J.P.	5, Kennington Terrace, Kennington Park, S.E.	Works, Contract, Ambulance, Hospitals.
Laubeth	Burridge, Alfred	Saxonsbury, 46, Herne Hill, S.E.	Children's, Hospitals.
"	Coelran, W. B.	The Clone, Court Road, West Norwood, S.E.	Finance, Hospitals.
"	Wilkinson, Cuthbert	Florlan, Lawrie Park Avenue, Sydenham	Works, Asylums, Hospitals.
Lewisham	Howard, Paul	39, Bow Road, E.	Finance, Hospitals.
Mile End Old Town	Jephson, N. A., F.R.G.S.	66, Portstow Road, W.	Works, "Exmouth," Asylums, Children's.
Paddington	Swift, H. H., J.P.	45, Westbourne Terrace, Hyde Park, W.	Asylums, Statistical.
Poplar	Power, Thomas, L.R.C.P. (LOND.)	156, East India Dock Road, Poplar, E.	Hospitals.
St. George's, W.	Branston, Miss Georgina	39, Greycote Gardens, Victoria Street, S.W.	Contract, Children's, Hospitals.
"	Everitt, Wm. (Election reported 1898)		
"	December, 1899)		
"	Hardcastle, Henry, J.P.	87, Pinico Road, S.W.	Children's, Hospitals. (Since resigned.)
"	Myers, Brig.-Sur. Lt.-Col. A. B. R.	38, Eaton Square, S.W.	Hospitals.
St. George, E.	Martineau, P. M., J.P., D.L., LL.B.	43, Gloucester Street, Belgrave Road, S.W.	Contract, "Exmouth," Hospitals.
St. Marylebone	Brooke-Hitching, T. H.	Littleworth, Fisher, Surrey	Works, Contract, Asylums, Hospitals.
"	Hunt, Jackson, M.A., J.P.	Regent House, Regent Street, W.	Hospitals, Works.
"	White, Edward (Chairman, General Purposes Committee)	23, Montagu Square, W.	Finance, Ambulance, Hospitals.
"		20, Upper Berkeley Street, W.	Works, Contract.

* The General Purpose: Committee consists of the whole Board.

MANAGERS ELECTED BY THE SEVERAL METROPOLITAN BOARDS OF GUARDIANS—continued.

UNION OR PARISH.	NAME OF MANAGER.	ADDRESS.	COMMITTEES (AS AT END OF 1899).
St. Olave's	Perry, E. C., M.D.	The Superintendent's House, Guy's Hospital, S.E.	<i>Resigned November, 1899.</i> Asylums, Contract, Hospitals.
St. Pancras	Boden, Anthony	34, Maitland Park Villas, N.W.	Contract, Children's, Hospitals.
"	Purchase, Frederick	16, Platt Street, Pancras Road, N.W.	Contract, Asylums, Hospitals.
"	Thornley, Joseph, J.P.	53, Camden Square, N.W.	Asylums, Children's.
St. Saviour's	Cornell, Thomas	63, Borough Road, S.E.	"Exmouth," Hospitals.
"	Neville, William	136, Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.	Children's, "Exmouth."
Shoreditch	Wakeling, E. J.	149, New North Road, Hoxton, N.	Works, Contract, Ambulance.
Stepney	Mills, F. C., J.P.	38, Albert Square, Commercial Road, E.	"Exmouth," Hospitals.
Strand	Prescott, Thomas, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.	35, Great Queen Street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C.	Ambulance, Hospitals.
Wandsworth & Clapham	Marrlott, Rev. C. P.	40, Park Road, New Wandsworth, S.W.	Contract, Asylums, Hospitals.
"	Muspratt, Henry	58, Mount Nod Road, Streatham, S.W.	Hospitals, Ambulance. (<i>Since resigned.</i>)
"	Penfold, W. F.	Burwood House, Upper Tooting, S.W.	Asylums, Hospitals. (<i>Since deceased.</i>)
Westminster	Connor, S. G., M.E.	3, Soho Square, W.	
Whitechapel	Brown, James	43, Lexham Gardens, Kensington, W.	
Woolwich	Smith, Captain R. T., V.D.	246, Burrage Road, Plumstead	
MANAGERS NOMINATED BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD.			
NAME OF MANAGER.	ADDRESS.	COMMITTEES (AS AT END OF 1899).	
Acworth, W. M.	18, St. James's Place, S.W.	Finance, Statistical, Children's.	
Adeane, Admiral E. S., C.M.G., J.P.	28, Eaton Place, Eaton Square, S.W.	Finance, Works, Ambulance, Hospitals.	
Bridges, J. H., M.B., F.R.C.P.	2, Park Place Gardens, Paddington, W.	Statistical, Hospitals.	
Bruce, G. L.	Toynbee Hall, Whitechapel, E.	Asylums, Children's.	
Bullock, Colonel R.	8, Gledstone Road, West Kensington, W.	Asylums, Hospitals.	
Crooks, William	28, Northumberland Street, Poplar, E.	Children's, Hospitals.	
Donerale, The Viscount	91, Victoria Street, Westminster	Statistical, Ambulance.	
Drage, Geoffrey, M.P.	20, Lowndes Square, S.W.	Finance, Statistical, Children's, "Exmouth."	
Galsworthy, Sir E. H., J.P., D.L. (<i>Chairman of the Board</i>)	26, Sussex Place, Regent's Park, N.W.	<i>Ex-officio member of all committees.</i>	
Helby, J. T.	Glengarriff, Hawthorne Road, Bickley, Kent.	Works, Asylums, Children's.	
Hensley, R. M., J.P.	Glenton House, Putney, S.W.	Finance, Works, Children's, Ambulance, Hospitals	
Hinderwick, Miss E. F. (<i>Nominations reported 4th November, 1899</i>)	8, Warwick Square, S.W.	Hospitals.	
Kennett-Barrington, Sir V. H. B.	57, Albert Hall Mansions, Kensington Gore, S.W.	Statistical.	
Marvin, Lieut.-Col. Wm.	45, Agate Road, Hammersmith, W.	Children's, Hospitals.	
Scovell, A. C., J.P.	8, Primrose Mansions, Battersea Park, S.W.	Finance, Statistical, Works, Ambulance, Hospitals.	
Stanley, Hon. Maude A.	32, Smith Square, Westminster, S.W.	Children's, Hospitals.	
Strong, Richard, J.P.	Helstonleigh, Champion Park, Camberwell, S.E.	Statistical, Asylums	
Talbot, Rt. Hon. J. G., M.P., J.P. (<i>Vice-Chairman of the Board</i>)	10, Great George Street, Westminster, S.W.	<i>Ex-officio member of all committees.</i>	

METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD.

REPORT OF THE METROPOLITAN ASYLUMS BOARD FOR THE YEAR 1899.

13th June, 1900.

In compliance with the Board's instructions, we—the Statistical Committee—have prepared the following report on the Board's work during the year 1899.

Increase of Board's work. Before referring to the work in detail, we deem it expedient to draw attention to the important additions which during the past ten years have been made to the institutions under the Board's control. In 1890 the Board had in occupation 19 institutions (hospitals, asylums, ambulance stations, wharves, and training ship); now the number has increased to 29, with 11 others not yet occupied (see the list at p. 18), and the number will undoubtedly increase in the near future. These facts must be borne in mind when the Managers' expenditure is considered, which, of course, has increased and will continue to increase.

The growth of the Board's work has necessarily augmented the demands made on the time of the Managers. For the year ended 25th March, 1900, the Managers' attendances at Board, committee, and sub-committee meetings numbered 8,163, and this notwithstanding that on the appointment of central committees the Managers considerably reduced the number of members of the sub-committees which represent the old committees of the several institutions.

Central committees. In the report for 1898 it was stated that the Local Government Board had by order directed the Managers to appoint two central committees—one for the management of the imbecile asylums and the other for the management of the fever and smallpox hospitals. In due course these committees were appointed. Each of them elected sub-committees to visit and inspect the institutions under its charge, and to report thereon to the central committee. At the close of the year the new scheme had only been in operation about six months, and it is therefore encouraging to learn from the annual report of the General Purposes Committee (p. 27) that even after so short a trial "the scheme has so far

“ been found to realise our anticipation that its adoption would conduce to
 “ greater thoroughness of administration and to a more efficient control of
 “ expenditure.”

Paris Exhibition. At the instance of the Home Office, the Managers decided to co-operate with the Social Science Sub-Committee of the Royal Commission of the Paris Exhibition of 1900 by exhibiting at the exhibition models of certain of the Board's hospitals, an ambulance station, ambulance carriages, ambulance steamboat, and various diagrams and views. The Managers also prepared, in French and English, a report concerning the Board and its work, for distribution to any visitors to the exhibition who might be specially interested.

Building works. The report of the Works Committee will be found on pp. 36-43. The committee refer in considerable detail to the works which they have had under supervision during the year, which involved an expenditure of £657,945.

The Managers have entered into a contract for the erection of an asylum at Tooting Bec at a cost of £204,548.

The Managers have adopted a form of agreement upon which every architect appointed by the Board will be engaged in future, and which it is hoped will obviate the disagreements and difficulties in connection with expenditure not specifically authorised by the Managers such as have arisen in the past.

Contracts for provisions, clothing, &c. The work of the contracts department continues to be carried out in accordance with the scheme laid down by the Managers in 1895. The central committee which controls this important branch of the Board's work has under its charge the stores in Mermaid Court, Borough, where manufactured and non-perishable goods are delivered in bulk, examined by specially appointed officers, and distributed to the various institutions as required.

The annual report of the committee is entered at p. 44. During the first year the stores were opened the proportion of goods rejected after examination as being inferior to sample was as high as 50 per cent. It has since fallen to 25 per cent.

It is now the general practice to entrust to the Contract Committee the duty of obtaining any furniture required at the various institutions. In the past year the complete furnishing of the new Grove Hospital was successfully carried out by the committee.

The importance and magnitude of the work devolving upon the Contract Committee will be better appreciated when it is remembered that the daily population of the Board's institutions during the past year was about 15,500, (14,000),* and that goods were contracted for of the estimated value of £294,000 (£280,000).

Children's Committee's work. On pp. 46 to 50 will be found the second annual report of the Children's Committee.

Of new work the Children's Committee have done little during the year; the schemes set out in their report for 1898 being in process of development.

The plans for two schools for children suffering from ophthalmia (total accommodation 720 children) have received the sanction of the Local Government Board. Their erection will proceed in due course under the direction of the Works Committee.

The plans for the third home for convalescent children, which it is proposed to erect at Millfield, Rustington, Sussex, have not yet been approved.

For defective children one home was in active operation nearly the whole year (Lloyd House, p. 50). It accommodates 20 girls, and the sub-committee who manage it consider that "the results hitherto achieved are distinctly promising." A house for the reception of a dozen boys was acquired in March, 1899, but the necessary alterations and repairs had not been put in hand at the close of the year.

Several houses have also been acquired for the accommodation of remand children.

At the close of the year 175 children were in the homes at Herne Bay and Margate and Lloyd House.

Training Ship "Exmouth" Committee's work. The twenty-third annual report of the committee charged with the management of the "Exmouth" is printed on pp. 51 to 78. During the year 341 (323) boys were admitted, 372 (306) were discharged, and 1 (1) died. There remained 531 (563) under training on December 31st, of whom 86 (63) were boys from country unions.

Of the 372 (306) boys who were discharged, 149 (123) entered the royal navy, 135 (112) the mercantile marine, 58 (32) the army as musicians, and 30 (39) were returned to their respective parishes and unions.

In addition to the ordinary educational subjects, the boys are taught in

* The italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

the following special subjects by experienced instructors: (1) seamanship, rowing, sailing, sail and hammock making, and signalling; (2) gunnery, rifle, cutlass, truck-gun and field-gun drill; (3) first aid to wounded; (4) gymnastics; (5) swimming; (6) tailoring; and (7) instrumental music. The elder boys are taken short voyages down the English Channel in the brigantine "Steadfast," for training in practical seamanship.

Special attention is called to the following paragraph in the committee's report, p. 51:—

Vacancies on the ship. "It is a little disappointing to have to note that, notwithstanding the really creditable record of the ship and the conspicuous success of the past year, the metropolitan boards of guardians do not avail themselves of the ship to the extent that could be expected. This condition of things is not of recent occurrence, for the ship in past years has rarely been quite full, and on that account the practice of receiving boys from country unions was commenced as long ago as 1892.

"At the end of the past year there were nearly 100 boys from country unions on board, and there were nearly 100 vacancies, so that the metropolitan boards of guardians were utilising this most suitable and excellent means of bringing up their boys and starting them in life to the extent of only about 400 in the aggregate. The work of the ship is beyond question valuable from two points of view—it is perhaps the best training that the boys could have, and at the same time it is a service to the State in providing men for the royal navy. It is therefore to us a matter of regret to see this means of benefiting both the State and the boys appreciated so much less than it might be.

* * * * *

"There can be little doubt that, were all boys at the metropolitan poor law schools sent to the ship who are physically and otherwise suitable, it would soon be filled, and probably a second ship also."

Asylum statistics. The total number of imbeciles, adults and children, under the care of the Managers during 1899 was 6,564 (6,548)*. Of that number 135 (139) were discharged, 47 (44) were transferred to other asylums, and 431 (418) died. The mortality was at the rate of 8.0 (7.5) per cent. on the average number resident in the adult asylums and 2.8 (4.3) at the schools.

The observations of the Statistical Committee upon the lunacy statistics, together with the reports of the medical superintendents of the Board's asylums, will be found in vol. II. of this report.

Asylums Committee's work. On p. 79 will be found the first annual report of the central Asylums Committee.

The committee set forth in detail the decisions of the Board in regard to the separate treatment and training of the improvable

* The italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

children now in the Darenth Schools. Pending the transfer of the schools from the South Metropolitan School District at Sutton, a house has been hired at Little Ealing capable of accommodating 150 children, and when the necessary alterations shall have been completed that number of children will be transferred from the Darenth Schools.

According to the statements of the medical superintendents of the Leavesden and Caterham Asylums (pp. 113 and 119, vol. II.), many of the patients admitted during the year were of the county asylum type of mental disease. Indeed, the medical superintendent of the last-mentioned asylum asserts that "the large majority of the patients" under his care are "chronic lunatics and not cases of imbecility and idiocy."

Steps have been taken tending towards the ultimate consolidation of the administration of the Darenth Asylum, Schools, and Pavilions.

**Notifica-
tions of
infectious
diseases.** The cases of infectious disease notified under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, during 1899 numbered 42,285 (*37,316*)*. They included 18,089 (*16,894*) notified as scarlet fever, 13,346 (*11,543*) as diphtheria, 4,453 (*3,024*) as enteric fever, 13 (*16*) as typhus fever, 1 as relapsing fever, 69 as continued fever, and 29 (*32*) as smallpox. The remainder were cases of other diseases notified under the Act, but not admissible into the Board's hospitals.

It will be convenient to point out here that amongst the notified cases admitted to the Board's hospitals, it is usual to find many cases of mistaken diagnosis. In the past year the percentage of such cases was as regards scarlet fever cases, 3.9 (*4.7*); diphtheria cases, 7.4 (*8.3*); and enteric fever cases, 17.3 (*23.3*).

**Ambulance
Committee's
work.** The Ambulance Committee's report is printed at page 97. The conveyance work of the Ambulance Department during 1899 showed an increase as compared with the previous year. The certificated cases of fever and diphtheria removed direct from their homes to the Board's hospitals numbered 24,917† (*20,923*). To these home-to-hospital removals must be added 7,973 (*6,437*) convalescents transferred to the Northern and other hospitals, and 7,904 (*6,671*) recovered cases removed from the convalescent hospitals to town hospitals for discharge. These numbers, with the addition of 136 (*128*) other transfers between the

* The italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

† Some of these cases were at once sent home again as not suffering from any disease admissible to the Board's hospitals: hence the number of removals does not coincide with the number of admissions.

acute hospitals; 385 (317) patients from hospitals to their homes; 144 (71)* from the out-patient departments of general hospitals to their homes, owing to want of room in the Managers' hospitals (these were admitted the following day); and 247 (133) enteric fever cases conveyed from their homes to the general hospitals, give a total of 41,706 (34,680) fever and diphtheria removals by the ambulances of the Board during the year. There were also 44 (37) removals of smallpox patients to and from the hospitals of the Board effected by the horse ambulances, and 369 (326) removals of patients conveyed to other destinations than the Board's hospitals, making the grand total of removals, 42,119 (35,043), by the land ambulance service during the year 1899. (See ambulance statistics, p. 48, vol. II.)

The steamboats of the river ambulance service are mainly engaged, at times when smallpox is not epidemic, in the conveyance of staff and stores between the Hospital Ships and London. Consequently, of 1,468 (955) passengers conveyed by these vessels during 1899, only 34 (18) were patients or visitors to patients, and the remainder were staff, &c. (See p. 50, vol. II.)

Hospital statistics. During 1899 the numbers of patients suffering from fever, diphtheria, smallpox, and "other diseases," admitted into the hospitals of the Board were as follow (in all these cases the diagnosis is as corrected after admission):—

	Admissions.	
Scarlet fever	13,290	(12,125)
Diphtheria	8,673	(6,566)
Enteric fever	1,535	(869)
Typhus ,,	11	(5)
Smallpox	18	(5)
Other diseases (exclusive of the non-smallpox cases detained at South Wharf or sent home at once) ..	1,583	(1,489)

The mortality per cent. was as follows:—

Scarlet fever	2.65	(4.12)
Diphtheria	13.95	(15.37)
Enteric fever	16.47	(17.73)
Typhus ,,	0.00	(11.11)
Smallpox	20.69	(0.00)
Other diseases (exclusive of the non-smallpox cases)	10.05	(9.84)

* The italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

The immunity from smallpox which the Metropolis continues to enjoy is a matter for sincere congratulation.

Of the 28 (36)* smallpox patients sent for admission to hospital during the year, the diagnosis of smallpox was confirmed in 10 (5) only, the remaining 18 (31) patients being returned to their homes as not suffering from the disease. The percentage of errors of diagnosis was 64·3 (83·3)† of the total cases certified.

The observations of the Statistical Committee upon the notifications of cases of infectious disease in 1899 and on the hospital statistics, together with the reports of the medical superintendents of the Board's fever and smallpox hospitals, will be found in volume II. of this report.

**Hospitals
Committee's
work.** Under the arrangements hereinbefore referred to, the management and control of the infectious hospitals of the Board now devolve upon the central Hospitals Committee.

The committee was in existence only during the latter half of the past year, and hence its report on p. 102 does not attempt to review the work of the department for the past year.

**Medical
instruction.** During the past twelve months 484 (425) students (of whom 25 (19) were women) attended classes at the Board's fever hospitals.

Staff. The head office staff has been increased by the appointment of a Surveyor to the Board, an assistant engineer, and several junior clerks.

The Accountant to the Board, Mr. Henry Reeves, resigned his appointment after 30 years' faithful service.

Leave of absence was granted to one clerk at the head office and to 25 men employed at the ambulance stations, 16 at the hospitals, and 29 at the asylums in order that they might join her Majesty's forces in South Africa. The dependents of 23 of the men who belonged to the army reserve were accorded allowances during such time as the men remain with the colours.

**Expendi-
ture.** The current expenditure of the Board during the financial year ended at Michaelmas, 1899, was £766,784 (£719,128), showing an increase of £47,655 over that of the preceding year.

* The italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

† In the case of smallpox, the patients are examined by a medical officer of the Board at the London wharves and only those passed by him enter the smallpox hospitals.

The following statement gives the items of expenditure, together with a comparison with the figures of the previous year:—

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	Amounts in respect of year ended Michaelmas, 1899.			Amounts in respect of year ended Michaelmas, 1898.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Maintenance of patients and other direct charges ... }	128,111	6	5	118,325	10	0	9,785	16	5	...		
Officers and servants ...	226,659	1	1	214,603	17	1	12,055	4	0	...		
Buildings and repairs ...	60,403	0	1	48,913	18	6	11,489	1	7	...		
Warming, cleansing, and lighting	72,904	1	4	68,245	12	8	4,658	8	8	...		
Rents, rates, taxes and insurance	30,463	3	0	28,464	17	6	1,998	5	6	...		
Furniture ...	26,696	15	7	29,345	19	10	...			2,649	4	3
Medicines and medical and surgical appliances ... }	5,754	3	11	5,281	8	1	472	15	10	...		
Stationery and postage ...	11,322	18	1	11,543	14	5	...			225	16	4
Horse hire, travelling expenses, Managers' expenses, and other charges ... }	7,516	7	3	8,079	15	0	...			563	7	9
Legal expenses ...	1,105	6	6	577	17	6	527	9	0	...		
Instalments of loans ...	117,158	9	10	108,667	19	4	8,490	10	6	...		
Interest on loans ...	71,954	17	7	69,691	17	6	2,263	0	1	...		
Superannuation allowances and compensation ... }	2,447	9	7	2,033	12	8	413	16	11	...		
Notification of diseases (being repayment of fees paid to medical practitioners by local sanitary authorities) }	4,286	19	6	5,347	10	0	...			1,060	10	6
£	766,783	19	9	719,128	10	1	52,154	8	6	4,498	18	10
	Being net increase ..						£47,655	9	8			

This expenditure may be roughly classified as follows:—

HEADS OF EXPENDITURE.	Amounts in respect of year ended Michaelmas, 1899.			Amounts in respect of year ended Michaelmas, 1898.			Increase.			Decrease.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Imbeciles ...	151,994	6	11	140,135	0	1	11,859	6	10	...		
Infectious sick ...	340,016	5	5	318,813	18	3	21,202	7	2	...		
Ambulance service ...	28,753	12	9	30,738	18	5	...			1,985	5	8
Boys on training ship ...	23,177	5	1	18,857	7	8	4,319	17	5	...		
Children of various classes ...	6,919	15	3	4,529	16	3	2,389	19	0	...		
General expenses (including head office and repayment and interest on loans) ... }	215,922	14	4	206,053	9	5	9,869	4	11	...		
£	766,783	19	9	719,128	10	1	49,640	15	4	1,985	5	8
	Net increase ...						£47,655	9	8			

During the same year the cost of the maintenance and clothing of the inmates in the establishments under the Board's control averaged—

Imbeciles .. .. .	.. .. .	6 $\frac{8}{32}$ d.	(6 $\frac{5}{32}$ d.)*	per head, per day.
Fever patients .. .. .	.. .. .	9d.	(8 $\frac{30}{32}$ d.)	.. .. .
Smallpox patients .. .. .	.. .. .	11 $\frac{24}{32}$ d.	(12 $\frac{20}{32}$ d.)	.. .. .
Boys on board the "Exmouth" .. .. .	.. .. .	8 $\frac{24}{32}$ d.	(8 $\frac{27}{32}$ d.)	.. .. .
Convalescent children .. .. .	.. .. .	6 $\frac{16}{32}$ d.	(6d.)	.. .. .
Defective .. .. .	.. .. .	6 $\frac{8}{32}$ d.		.. .. .

Up to the end of the last financial year (30th September, 1899) the Managers had raised on loan a total of £3,360,903 (the amount for the past year being £164,881 (£283,036), of which £1,099,161 (£982,003) had been repaid, leaving an outstanding liability of £2,261,742 (£2,214,019). About 80 per cent. of this amount was incurred on account of the provision of accommodation for the infectious sick, 19½ per cent. for imbeciles, and the balance for the training ship, children's homes, and new head office.

A return (A, p. 18) of the various institutions and establishments under the control of the Board, with statistical and general information in regard thereto, is appended to this report, together with a statement (B, p. 21) showing under the several headings the total receipts and expenditure in respect of the various asylums, hospitals, and other institutions for the twelve months ended, and of balances and liabilities of the Board on 30th September, 1899.

(Signed) N. A. JEPHSON,
Chairman of the Statistical Committee.

HEAD OFFICE: VICTORIA EMBANKMENT,
LONDON, E.C.

* The italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figure for 1898.

APPENDIX A.—Return for the year 1899 showing the various institutions

No.	Name of Institution.	Where Situate.
Imbecile Asylums.		
1	Leavesden Asylum for Adults	Near Watford, Herts... ..
2	Caterham „ „	Caterham, Surrey
3	Darenth „ „ and Children... ..	Near Dartford, Kent
4	Rochester House (hired for eight years from 24th June, 1900, at £225 per annum) ... }	Little Ealing, Middlesex
5	Tooting Bec Asylum	Tooting, S.W.
6	Training Ship “Exmouth”	Moored off Grays, Essex
	Infirmary	Sherfield House, Grays, Essex
	Shipping Home	7, Stainsby Road, Limehouse
Fever Hospitals.		
7	Eastern Hospital	The Grove, Homerton, N.E.
8	North-Eastern Hospital (d)	St. Ann's Road, Tottenham, N.
9	North-Western „	Lower Lawn Road, Hampstead, N.W.
10	Western „	Seagrave Road, Fulham, S.W.
11	South-Western „	Landor Road, Stockwell, S.W.
12	Fountain „ (d)	Tooting Grove, Lower Tooting, S.W.
13	Grove „	Tooting Grove, Lower Tooting, S.W.
14	South-Eastern „	Avonley Road, New Cross, S.E.
15	Park „	Hither Green, Lewisham, S.E.
16	Brook „	Shooter's Hill, Kent
17	Northern „ (for Convalescing Patients)	Winchmore Hill, N.
18	Southern „ („)	Carshalton, Surrey
Smallpox Hospitals.		
19	Hospital Ships	Long Reach, near Dartford, Kent
20	Joyce Green Hospital	Near Dartford, Kent
21	Gore Farm „ (for Convalescing Patients)	Darenth, near Dartford, Kent... ..
Homes for Children.		
<i>Ophthalmic Schools.</i>		
22	High Wood School	Brentwood, Essex
23	White Oak „	Swanley, Kent
<i>Convalescent Homes.</i>		
24	S. Anne's Home	Herne Bay
25	East Cliff House	Margate
26	Millfield... ..	Rustington, near Littlehampton
<i>Defective Children.</i>		
27	Lloyd House	11, Lloyd Street, Pentonville, W.C.
	No. 16, Elm Grove	Peckham, S.E.
	Nos. 60, 62, 64, Kingwood Road	Fulham, S.W.
<i>Remand Children.</i>		
28	Nos. 70, 72, 74, Pentonville Road	Pentonville Road, N.
29	Nos. 36, 37, 38, Camberwell Green	Camberwell Green, S.E.
Ambulance Stations.		
30	Eastern Ambulance Station	Brooksby's Walk, Homerton, N.E.
31	South-Eastern „	Old Kent Road, S.E.
32	Western „	Seagrave Road, Fulham, S.W.
33	Brook „	Shooter's Hill, Kent
34	North-Western „	Lower Lawn Road, Hampstead, N.W.
35	South-Western „	Landor Road, Stockwell, S.W.
Wharves and Piers.		
36	North Wharf... ..	Managers' Street, Blackwall, E.
37	South „	Rotherhithe Street, Rotherhithe, S.E.
38	West „	Town Mead Rd., nr. Wandsworth Bridge, S.W.
Contracts Department.		
39	Central Stores	Mermaid Court, Borough, S.E.

(a) The total acreage of the Managers' property at Darenth is 324 a. 1 r. 16 p.

(b) Ambulance stations are erected on portions of these sites.

(c) These figures represent the normal accommodation available at the fever hospitals, and do not include the extra beds which can be placed in some wards in times of temporary pressure.

under the Board's control, with statistical and other information in regard thereto.

No.	Date of Opening.	Acreage.	Accommodation.
1	October, 1870	84 a. 0 r. 0 p.	2,000 beds.
2	" "	154 a. 1 r. 32 p.	2,035 " (Adult Department.)
3	{ May, 1880 (Adult Department) ... } { November, 1878 (Schools Department) }	(a) 164 a. 1 r. 0 p.	{ 1,052 " (Adult Department.) 942 " (Schools Department.) 150 " for improv- able children.
4	Not yet opened... ..	... ..	{
5	In course of erection	22 a.	750 beds.
6	{ March, 1876 } { " " } { January, 1878... .. }	{ } { 2 a. 3 r. 21 p. } { }	{ 600 boys. 46 beds. 6 boys.
7	February 1st, 1871	(b) 9 a.	362 beds ... }
8	October 8th, 1892	(b) 33 a. 0 r. 6 p.	386* " ... }
9	January 25th, 1870... ..	(b) 12 a. 0 r. 1 p.	460 " ... }
10	March 10th, 1877	(b) 13 a. 2 r. 35 p.	450 " ... }
11	January 31st, 1871... ..	(b) 8 a. 1 r. 20 p.	366 " ... }
12	October, 1893	(b) 10 a. 2 r. 19 p.	402 " ... }
13	August 17th, 1899	(b) 22 a. 3 r. 3 p.	522 " ... }
14	March 17th, 1877	(b) 10 a. 2 r. 0 p.	435* " ... }
15	November 8th, 1897	(b) 19 a. 1 r. 6 p.	548 " ... }
16	August 31st, 1896	(b) 29 a. 1 r. 2 p.	488 " ... }
17	September 25th, 1887	(b) 35 a. 2 r. 38 p.	764 " (e) }
18	Not yet erected... ..	136 a. 0 r. 0 p.	800 " ... }
19	July, 1881... ..	{ 8 a. of ground abreast the Ships } { at Long Reach }	{ 300 " ... }
20	Not yet erected... ..	218 a. 0 r. 0 p.	400 " ... }
21	October, 1890... ..	(a) 160 a. 0 r. 16 p.	1,192 " ... }
22	Not yet erected... ..	28 a.	360 children.
23	" "	49 a.	360 " "
24	January, 1898	2 a. 2 r. 0 p.	134 beds.
25	June, 1898	1 a. 3 r. 0 p.	41 " "
26	Not yet erected... ..	5 a. 2 r. 0 p.	100 " "
27	{ January, 1899... .. } { Not yet opened... .. } { " " }	{ } { } { }	{ 20 girls. 12 boys. 22 " "
28	Not yet opened... ..	... ..	50-60 children.
29	" " ... ..	... ..	50 " "
30	June 20th, 1885 ... ..	... ..	... ..
31	October 1st, 1883 ... ..	... ..	... ..
32	July 9th, 1884 ... ..	... ..	... ..
33	August 18th, 1896 ... ..	... ..	... ..
34	September 1st, 1897 ... ..	... ..	... ..
35	May 2nd, 1898 ... ..	... ..	... ..
36	... ..	$\frac{1}{2}$ an acre ... ..	... ..
37	... ..	2 a. 1 r. 0 p. ... ..	... ..
38	... ..	2 a. 2 r. 10 p. ... ..	... ..
39	... ..	... ..	... ..

(d) The North-Eastern Hospital and the Fountain Hospital are temporary structures.

(e) The permanent accommodation at the Northern Hospital is for 680 beds.

* As the development of these fever hospitals into a more permanent and satisfactory form is now proceeding, the figures are subject to final revision.

APPENDIX A—continued.

Existing Accommodation for Imbeciles.		Existing Accommodation (Temporary and Permanent) for Fever and Diphtheria Patients.		Existing Accommodation for Smallpox Patients.		Other Existing Accommodation.	
Leavesden Asylum ...	2,000	Eastern Hospital ...	362	Hospital Ships ...	300	Training Ship "Exmouth" ...	600
Caterham "	2,035	North-Eastern Hospital ...	386	Gore Farm Hospital } for convalescing } Smallpox Patients }	1,192	Ditto Infirmary ...	46
Darenth "	1,994	North-Western Hospital ...	460			Ditto Shipping Home ...	6
		Western Hospital ...	450			S. Anne's Home ...	134
		South-Western Hospital ...	366			East Cliff House ...	41
		Fountain Hospital ...	402			Lloyd House ...	20
		Grove Hospital ...	522				
		South-Eastern Hospital ...	435				
		Park Hospital ...	548				
		Brook Hospital ...	488				
			4,419				
		Northern Hospital (for convalescent cases) ...	764				
TOTAL ...	6,029	TOTAL ...	5,183	TOTAL ...	1,492	TOTAL ...	847

	Beds.
Imbeciles ...	6,029
Fever Patients ...	5,183
Smallpox Patients ...	1,492
Training Ship (Boys) and Children's Homes ...	847
GRAND TOTAL ...	13,551

SUMMARY.	
Imbeciles ...	6,029
Fever Patients ...	5,183
Smallpox Patients ...	1,492
Training Ship (Boys) and Children's Homes ...	847
GRAND TOTAL ...	13,551

ANNUAL REPORT, 1899.

APPENDIX B.

BALANCE SHEET showing Receipts and Net Expenditure for the Year ended September 30th, 1899.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.																				TOTAL EXPENDITURE.		Total No. of Days, average Daily No. Patients, and Cost of Maintenance.															
		"COMMON CHARGES" assessed on the Rateable Values of the several Parishes and Unions in the District, irrespective of the number of Patients chargeable to them.																																					
		DIRECT CHARGES		OTHER INDIRECT CHARGES		MAINTENANCE OF OFFICERS AND SERVANTS.										WAGES AND RETIRED ACCOUNT.				WARREN, CLARENCE, AND LONDON.				TOTAL															
		"MAINTENANCE OF PATIENTS" including Provision, Medicines, and Clothing supplied to, and Fumeroles of Patients chargeable to the Parishes and Unions according to the number of Patients.		a Clothing for discharged Patients, b Expenses of Boys going to Sea, and of Children to and from Homes; and c Certification of Infectious.		Salaries and Wages of Subordinate Officers, including Lodging Allowances.		Provision consumed by Principal and Subordinate Officers.		Provision consumed by Principal and Subordinate Officers.		Uniforms and Sundries.		Materials used.		Wages & Expenses.		Special Expenditure.		Coal, Coke, Soap, &c.		Gas and Water, &c.		Station, Book, Taxes, and Postage, and Bookings for Ships.		FURNITURE AND FURNISHING ACCOUNT.		Medicine and Medical Appliances.		Stationery and Printing.		Other Charges.		"COMMON CHARGES" AND OTHER CHARGES, OTHER THAN "MAINTENANCE."		TOTAL		Total No. of Days, average Daily No. Patients, and Cost of Maintenance.	
		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.		£ s. d.							
To Contributions from Parishes and Unions in the District		30,354 13 4																																					
To amount received from various Metropolitan Authorities in respect of the Maintenance of Patients		3,983 12 6																																					
To Interest on Balance in hands of Treasurer		1,965 13 10																																					
To Net Proceeds of Sale of "Red Cross"		432 10 10																																					
To Receipts from Ambulance Service																																							
To Receipts from Training Ship for Boys																																							
To Receipts from Children's Institutions																																							
To Receipts from St. Anne's Home																																							
To Receipts from East Cliff House																																							
To Receipts from Lydd House																																							
To Receipts from Elm Grove House																																							
To Receipts from Camberwell Green House																																							
To Receipts from General Expenses																																							
To Receipts from By Chief Offices																																							
To Receipts from Proposed Sites Expenses																																							
To Receipts from By Stores Department and Samples																																							
Totals		126,802 2 10		1,189 2 7		37,550 14		9,955 16		9,849 18		43,748 5 11		47,190 5 11		38,967 17		36,495 11		33,680 10		32,692 10		33,410 11		36,006 15 0		3,754 3 11		13,302 18 1		7,216 7 2		315,902 14 4					
Legal Expenses																																							
Loans Instalment																																							
Do. Interest																																							
Superannuation Allowances																																							
Notification of Diseases																																							
Total Receipts £/18,95 19 7		424,170 16 7																																					
Balance at the commencement of the year		138,054 15 5																																					
Total Expenditure		385,922 10 11																																					
Balance at the close of the year		438,248 5 6																																					

Explanation of Balance:-
 Balance in hands of Treasurer at close of the year ... £110,802 7 2
 Cash Balances ... £2,217 8 2
 Net Value of Stock of Provision, Medicines, Clothing, Furs, &c., at the several Establishments of the Managers ... £6,127 5 9
 Less Amounts due to Contractors for Supplies charged to Parishes and Unions during the year ... £7,813 7 7
 £110,309 10 4

The following Contributions remained unpaid at close of the year:-
 St. Mary, Islington Parish ... £2,000 0 0
 Hammersmith Parish ... 800 0 0
 Fulham Parish ... 1,800 0 0
 St. Pancras Parish ... 4,200 0 0
 £8,800 0 0

Total Expenditure £ 385,922 10 11
 Contributions refunded to certain Parishes in consequence of reduction of Rateable Values ... 126 6 4
 Balance at the close of the Year ... 438,248 5 6
 £ 438,248 5 6

RECEIPTS

DATE	PARTICULARS	AMOUNT	REMARKS	TOTAL
1890
1891
1892
1893
1894
1895
1896
1897
1898
1899
1900
1901
1902
1903
1904
1905
1906
1907
1908
1909
1910
1911
1912
1913
1914
1915
1916
1917
1918
1919
1920
1921
1922
1923
1924
1925
1926
1927
1928
1929
1930
1931
1932
1933
1934
1935
1936
1937
1938
1939
1940
1941
1942
1943
1944
1945
1946
1947
1948
1949
1950
1951
1952
1953
1954
1955
1956
1957
1958
1959
1960
1961
1962
1963
1964
1965
1966
1967
1968
1969
1970
1971
1972
1973
1974
1975
1976
1977
1978
1979
1980
1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
1990
1991
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR GENERAL PURPOSES.

March, 1900.

**Appoint-
ment of
central
committees.**

The Managers approved and adopted (on the 6th May last) a scheme for the constitution of central hospitals and asylums committees and for the appointment of sub-committees of management for the several institutions concerned.

By the adoption of this scheme, the procedure which had hitherto regulated the management and control of the Board's institutions was in the case of the fever and smallpox hospitals and of the imbecile asylums considerably modified, the previously existing local committees being replaced by two central committees reporting direct to the Board of Management, and responsible to the Board for the control of the institutions respectively comprised in these two sections of the Board's work, and the management of the several institutions being delegated to visiting sub-committees appointed by and directly responsible to the central committees.

It is anticipated that by this alteration in administrative procedure the Managers' powers of supervision will be increased, and their administrative and financial control over their institutions strengthened, inasmuch as before any recommendation can now reach the Board it must necessarily undergo thorough consideration and discussion not only by the sub-committee and officials of the institution concerned, but also by the central committee.

It is unnecessary here to recapitulate the details of the scheme, but it will, we think, be admitted that, notwithstanding the increasing number of institutions under the Managers' control and the magnitude of the work which now devolves upon them, the scheme has so far been found to realise our anticipation that its adoption would conduce to greater thoroughness of administration and to a more efficient control of expenditure.

**Imbecile
classifica-
tion and
accommo-
dation.**

On the 25th February, 1899, we submitted to the Board a report upon the whole question of imbecile classification and accommodation which had been prepared for our consideration by a sub-committee.

In this report, which dealt more particularly with that phase of the question which has reference to the training and treatment of imbecile children, we traced the causes and conditions which had resulted in the gradual transformation of the Darenth Schools and Asylum from a training institution for imbeciles and idiots into establishments where (owing to the admission of a far larger proportion of helpless and hopeless cases than was ever contemplated) the training of these patients had for many years past been carried on under great and growing disadvantages.

To remedy this state of affairs we came to the conclusion that it was imperative to remove from Darenth the improvable children and industrial adults

to another site, to retain at Darenth the helpless and unimprovable patients, and to provide elsewhere a training school, and in connection with it an industrial colony where the training given in the school might be continued and utilised in proper workshops, and where some of the works and repairs required by other institutions of the Board might be carried on.

With the object of giving practical effect to this conclusion, the following recommendations were formulated :—

- (a) That in future the imbecile children under the care of the Managers shall be divided into two groups, which groups shall be housed on separate sites under different medical superintendents.
- (b) That one group (the "improvable children"), which shall be placed in a training school, shall comprise all those who may be reasonably expected to derive such benefit from training that they may become capable of being usefully occupied under supervision in domestic or industrial employment, and may thus become partially self-supporting.
- (c) That, with a view to preliminary classification, as well as for quarantine purposes, all children on admission shall be received at a central receiving house.
- (d) That for cases in which it is not possible to arrive at any immediate decision there shall be probationary wards where children could be kept under more prolonged observation.
- (e) That these probationary wards, as distinct from the proposed receiving house, be attached to the training school.
- (f) That provision be made for the continued employment of those who successfully pass through childhood and youth in the training school, and of some of those who, having been admitted as adults into the Managers' asylums, are capable of industrial employment, and that this industrial scheme be in connection with the training school and under the same medical superintendent.
- (g) That as separation by blocks and wards of patients of different ages and sexes and degrees of infirmity is most important, workers, even though employed in domestic work by day in helpless wards, should not as a rule be warded with helpless patients.
- (h) That, subject to these limitations, no objections be offered to a mixture of ages and sexes in a single institution, or to the retention of a reasonable proportion of working patients in an institution for helpless cases, provided always that all patients who are capable of better work be sent where they will have the opportunity of doing it, and that the two broad classes, viz., those who are more or less self-supporting and those who are quite incapable of self-support in any degree, are not otherwise placed together in the same institution than as permitted by the above-mentioned retention of a reasonable number of workers.
- (i) That the improvable children be removed from Darenth as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

The result of the Managers' consideration of these recommendations was a general endorsement of our proposals, and a decision (i.) to abolish the post of medical superintendent of the Darenth schools, and to place the schools and asylum at Darenth under the control of one medical superintendent; (ii.) to provide receiving houses for children at the Tooting Bec Asylum; and (iii.) to take steps to obtain by legislation the raising of the age at which a magistrate's certificate shall become necessary for the further detention of imbecile children from 16 to 21.

The Asylums Committee are now, we understand, actively engaged in giving effect to the Board's decision, and we have every confidence that their efforts will result in the improved classification of the patients in the several asylums and a more profitable utilisation of the accommodation for imbeciles at the Managers' disposal, and also in a distinct improvement in the status of the patients, and particularly of those younger ones who are sufficiently intelligent to profit by suitable training and teaching when removed from the depressing environment of the less intelligent class.

Transfer of imbeciles to other asylums of the Board.

As intimately associated with the general question of imbecile classification, and as materially assisting the Managers in what has hitherto proved a great drawback to its satisfactory accomplishment, we have to record the issue of an order by the Local Government Board on the 13th March, 1899, which provides "for the transfer of "insane paupers from any asylum under the control of the Board of Management "of the Metropolitan Asylum District to any other asylum under their control."

South Metropolitan School District property.

Although the Local Government Board have recently issued an order authorising the Asylums Board to purchase the property at Sutton and Witham belonging to the Managers of the South Metropolitan School District, for the sum of £203,000, there seems little prospect of the Managers obtaining immediate possession of any of the buildings, as provision will necessarily have to be made for the accommodation elsewhere of the children now at Sutton and Witham before they can be withdrawn by the guardians of the several parishes and unions constituting the South Metropolitan School District.

Temporary accommodation of imbecile children.

A recent attempt on the part of the Managers to acquire immediate possession of the Witham school for the temporary accommodation of imbecile children has proved abortive, and we have under consideration at the present time the question of providing such temporary accommodation elsewhere.

Medical instruction to students.

After due consideration of a communication from the Local Government Board, having reference to the instruction given to medical students at certain of the Managers' fever hospitals, we directed the medical superintendents (a) to restrict as far as possible to clinical demonstration and instruction the instruction given to medical students at the Managers' hospitals, and (b) not to hold classes for students in the forenoon.

Head office staff. On the 11th March last the Managers, upon our recommendation and having regard to the increase in the work of the Board (no fewer than five large fever hospitals, three ambulance stations, three homes for children, and a central store having been opened during the previous nine years and added to the number of institutions under the Board's control), decided to augment permanently the clerical staff at the head office by appointing six additional third-class clerks and replacing by three other third class clerks three of the temporary clerks previously employed in the ambulance department.

Vaccination of children in homes. As the result of our consideration of a letter which was received from the Hackney guardians on this subject in February, 1899, the guardians were informed that the Managers were not prepared to accept the responsibility of giving directions for the non-vaccination of children placed in their charge.

This question has since been the subject of correspondence between the Managers and the Local Government Board, who have recently decided that the Managers "may cause the children to be vaccinated, provided the guardians of the unions to which the children are chargeable have not acquired the rights of the parent under the Poor Law Acts, 1889 and 1899."

Visiting of Board's institutions. On the 17th June, 1899, the Managers adopted a resolution in which they asked the Local Government Board so to modify their order of the 18th June, 1867, as to allow any member of the Board, subject to such restrictions as the Managers might determine, to visit any institution of the Board at his own expense.

The Local Government Board did not, however, see their way to adopt the Managers' views on this subject, but issued an order under which it is competent for these visits to be made by a Manager at any time and without any restrictions whatever.

Stay of visitors with principal officers. Upon our recommendation, the Managers have recently adopted a series of resolutions regulating and limiting the stay of visitors with the principal officers of the Board's institutions, and providing for a payment to the Board for rations of a sum of 2s. per visitor per diem.

Medical examination of officers and servants. They have also, upon our advice, formulated regulations under which every person whom it is proposed to employ in the Managers' service will in future have to be medically inspected and certified to be physically fit for the post to which he is to be appointed.

Poor Law Officers' Superannuation Act Amendment Act, 1897. On the 28th January, 1899, the Managers adopted a resolution concurring in certain representations by the Central London Sick Asylum District under which the Local Government Board were urged to introduce a Bill into Parliament extending to all female servants the option of contracting out which was granted to nurses under this Act.

Minor matters.

Amongst the many minor matters dealt with by us from time to time during the year 1899, it is only necessary to mention—

- (i.) The substitution of a revised uniform scale for that previously in force at the Board's imbecile asylums.
- (ii.) The making of the necessary arrangements for the general scope of the Managers' work being adequately represented at the forthcoming Paris Exhibition.
- (iii.) A decision to provide weighbridges at such of the Board's hospitals as did not previously possess them.
- (iv.) The salary to be assigned to the office of Accountant to the Board.
- (v.) The application to artisans and others in the Board's service of the regulations under which officers and servants are required to devote the whole of their time to the service of the Managers.

(Signed) EDWARD WHITE

Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

April 24th, 1900.

Resignation of the Accountant. During the course of the year 1899, increasing ill-health compelled Mr. Henry Reeves, who had been ever since the establishment of the Asylums Board at the head of the Managers' accounting staff, to send in his resignation. In accepting it the Managers recorded their regret at the announcement and the high sense they entertained of the value of Mr. Reeves's thirty years of faithful service.

Appointment of successor. We were instructed to advertise for candidates for the post, to which, on our recommendation, a salary of £600, rising to £800, a year was attached. Over 300 applications for the appointment were received, and more than 20 of the applicants were personally seen by us. From amongst them we selected three for submission to the General Purposes Committee. In the end, Mr. Morris Heyes, accountant to the Corporation of Blackpool, was selected by the General Purposes Committee and appointed by the Board.

Re-organisation of financial control. Mr. Reeves's resignation and the appointment of his successor have prevented our making as much progress as we had hoped with the general reorganisation of the control of the Board's finance. But matters have been pushed forward in several directions. Under authority of the Managers, we have put ourselves in communication with the Local Government Board in reference to the modification of the orders under which our financial business is conducted. We have suggested that the time has arrived when the whole of the orders regulating our procedure, many of the provisions of which are obsolete and some of which are even self-contradictory, might with advantage be redrafted and codified, and we have indicated many specific points on which revision of the existing regulations is much needed. We are still awaiting the reply of the Local Government Board. Meanwhile the question of the appointment of new officers to assist the Managers in the control of their work has advanced a stage. On June 17th, 1899, the Board authorised us to frame and submit a scheme providing for the appointment of two new officers, to be called respectively "medical inspector" and "general inspector." But we felt that the moment when the new system of central committees for hospitals and asylums respectively was just coming into operation was an inconvenient time for introducing a further change of so serious a nature in our methods of business, and we have not as yet proceeded further with this reference. The Managers have authorised the appointment of an additional clerk to provide for more frequent visits for the inspection of the accounts at the various institutions, and we hope the appointment will be made before long.

Local taxation reform. During the year two members of our committee took part in the conference of metropolitan local authorities, convened by the London County Council, to consider the question of uniformity in assessments. The conference declined to agree to a suggested basis of assessment which would have effected a reduction in some instances of the

amount which our institutions pay in local rates, and which—a still more important matter—would have established a uniform system on a logical basis. This result is much to be regretted. From one point of view it is quite immaterial to the Managers how high or how low their institutions are assessed. The higher the local authorities assess the Managers, the higher in return the precept which the Managers issue to the local authorities. But an assessment above the average rate by one particular district not only gives that district an unfair advantage at the expense of the rest of the Metropolis, but also leads to waste of money in complicated and expensive rating appeals. During last year, for instance, we were compelled, in justice to the ratepayers of the Metropolis as a whole, to resist what we regarded as an unjustifiable assessment on the South-Eastern Hospital. Our appeal was heard at Quarter Sessions on February 25th, 1899, and the decision of the court was that the assessment should be reduced by £52, and that each side should pay their own costs. These costs, all of which of course come out of the pockets of the ratepayers, amount on our side to 19 years' purchase of the reduction in our rate, and the costs of the guardians of Greenwich were no doubt an equal amount.

Minor matters.

Of minor matters dealt with during the year 1899, we may mention the following. We have removed the cost of the stores department from the heading "general expenses," and now charge it in the shape of a percentage addition (about 5 per cent.) to the cost of the goods sent out by the department to the several institutions. We have drawn up and submitted to the Local Government Board for approval forms of account for children's homes adapted to the smaller size and simpler nature of these establishments. We have fixed, for purposes of superannuation, the value of the emoluments of the staff at the same institutions. We have obtained from the New River Company a reduction in their charge for water supplied to such of our hospitals as are served by them from 1s. to 7½d. per 1,000 gallons. Owing to the increase in the amounts handed to the stewards at certain of our institutions to pay wages, the Managers on our recommendation are, in new appointments, requiring the amount for which their fidelity is guaranteed to be correspondingly increased.

Financial tables.

We subjoin tables showing in outline the financial position of the Board.

(Signed) W. M. ACWORTH,
Chairman.

Return of Loans raised during the year ended Michaelmas, 1899.

Amount borrowed.	Period of currency.	Purpose for which Loan was obtained.	Rate of interest per cent.
£			£ s. d.
13,200	15 years	North-Eastern Hospital, reconstruction of the hospital and other works... ..	2 15 0
14,456	15 "	Brook Hospital, erection, fitting up, &c.	2 15 0
87,000	30 "	Do. do. do. do.	2 15 0
50,225	30 "	North-Eastern Hospital, reconstruction of the hospital and other works... ..	2 15 0
£164,881			

The loans outstanding at Michaelmas, 1899, amounted to £2,261,742, and the average rate of interest payable on this amount is £3¼ per cent.

Return showing the Expenditure, Rate in the £, Numbers of Patients Maintained (excluding the year of the formation of the Board)

No.	In respect of year ended at Michaelmas.	Expenditure.		Rate in the £.		Produce of 1d. Rate in the £ on the Rateable Values in force.	Number of Patients maintained.											
		Capital.	Current.	Common charges.	Maintenance.		IMBECILES.			FEVER PATIENTS.			BOYS ON TRAINING SHIP.					
							Maximum.	Average daily No.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Average daily No.	Minimum.	Maximum.	Average daily No.	Minimum.			
1	1867	£ Nil.	£ Nil.	d. $\frac{1}{2}$	d. ...	£ 66,469	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
2	1868	32,599	2,538	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	70,219	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3	1869	114,297	8,384	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	73,184	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4	1870	233,144	38,884	$\frac{1}{2}$	...	73,951	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5	1871	126,430	125,027	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	82,916	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6	1872	18,357	159,632	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	82,916	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7	1873	28,974	140,940	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	82,550	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8	1874	6,127	146,485	1	$\frac{3}{4}$	84,963	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9	1875	22,779	162,082	1	$\frac{3}{4}$	86,382	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10	1876	29,023	157,961	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	95,980	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
11	1877	124,737	263,128	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	97,365	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12	1878	68,687	251,199	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	97,365	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13	1879	62,733	242,413	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	99,367	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
14	1880	64,872	248,338	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	101,620	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
15	1881	31,879	389,766	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{7}{8}$	104,217	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16	1882	36,823	378,794	3	$1\frac{1}{10}$	113,804	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
17	1883	39,227	424,201	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	115,716	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
18	1884	133,183	560,854	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{10}$	117,852	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
19	1885	110,024	515,403	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	120,080	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
20	1886	88,523	316,511	3	$\frac{1}{2}$	122,040	5,439	5,340	5,287	742	333	220	603	562	539			
21	1887	39,529	315,427	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	126,274	5,574	5,406	5,376	2,789	856	424	595	580	549			
22	1888	29,360	384,216	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	127,576	5,651	5,481	5,349	2,248	1,540	798	608	571	547			
23	1889	51,773	348,435	2	$\frac{3}{8}$	128,745	5,773	5,572	5,437	1,884	940	603	584	504	483			
24	1890	15,554	369,752	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	130,677	5,955	5,686	5,442	2,435	1,535	1,160	530	504	466			
25	1891	1,292	401,288	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	130,687	5,943	5,776	5,707	2,055	1,588	1,050	496	479	452			
26	1892	44,716	488,936	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	136,931	6,026	5,853	5,755	4,389	2,023	1,438	557	494	478			
27	1893	56,007	583,138	$3\frac{3}{8}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	139,189	6,034	5,976	5,914	3,558	3,249	2,199	605	549	525			
28	1894	200,381	575,214	4	$\frac{1}{2}$	140,334	6,022	5,956	5,871	2,950	2,915	2,455	597	582	548			
29	1895	395,902	553,975	3	$\frac{1}{2}$	141,642	6,047	5,996	5,928	3,568	2,758	1,897	604	572	522			
30	1896	326,025	625,122	$3\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	148,368	6,049	6,021	5,963	4,996	3,753	3,217	566	535	469			
31	1897	438,175	665,393	$3\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{8}$	148,329	6,046	6,001	5,940	5,023	4,209	3,136	564	526	507			
32	1898	283,128	719,128	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	149,481	6,045	5,996	5,936	4,745	3,967	3,120	564	537	507			
33	1899	159,099	766,784	$4\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	153,316	6,025	5,954	5,792	5,710	4,202	3,208	599	561	507			

* NOTE.—Maintenance of patients is not included in our rate. We charge this to each individual union or parish according to in effect, spreads it as a rate over the whole Metropolis. The real cost of our work is therefore properly shown by the addition of the number of patients maintained prior to the year 1886 cannot be given with any degree of accuracy, and the number of expenditure on current account during the years 1883-4-5 was due to an epidemic of smallpox.

Smallpox), and particulars relating to the various Institutions of the Managers from 1867 to the year ended Michaelmas, 1899.

Number of existing Institutions at the commencement of each year, together with names of new establishments added from time to time.		
No.	Number of Institutions.	PARTICULARS OF ADDITIONAL INSTITUTIONS.
1		
2		
3		
4	...	Leavesden and Caterham Asylums and North-Western Hospital opened.
5	3	Eastern and South-Western Hospitals opened.
6	5	
7	5	
8	5	
9	5	Clapton Asylum rented.
10	6	Training Ship "Exmouth" established.
11	7	South-Eastern and Western Hospitals opened and Limehouse Smallpox Hospital taken over.
12	10	Limehouse Smallpox Hospital abolished.
13	9	Darenth Schools opened and Clapton Asylum given up.
14	9	Do. Asylum opened.
15	10	Do. Camp opened and Hospital Ships "Atlas" and "Endymion" established.
16	12	Do. Camp closed and Ambulance Station at London Fields opened.
17	12	South-Eastern Ambulance Station opened.
18	13	Darenth Camp re-opened, Plaistow Hospital rented, Western Ambulance Station opened, and "Castalia" added to Hospital Ships.
19	16	River Ambulance Service—comprising Wharves and the Steamers "Maltese Cross," "Red Cross," and "Albert Victor"—instituted, and Eastern Ambulance Station removed from London Fields to Homerton.
20	17	Darenth Camp closed and Plaistow Hospital given up.
21	15	Northern Hospital opened.
22	16	
23	16	
24	16	
25	16	Gore Farm Hospital opened.
26	17	North-Eastern Hospital opened.
27	18	Fountain Hospital opened.
28	19	"Geneva Cross" added to fleet of Ambulance Steamers.
29	19	
30	19	Brook Hospital and Ambulance Station opened and Medical Department (River Service) instituted.
31	22	Park Hospital and North-Western Ambulance Station opened, "White Cross" added to fleet of Ambulance Steamers, and Stores Department inaugurated.
32	25	South-Western Ambulance Station opened. S. Anne's Home and East Cliff House taken over, and "Red Cross" Ambulance Steamer sold out of service.
33	28	Grove Hospital and Lloyd House opened. (Office of the Board under construction, and North-Eastern Hospital being enlarged.)

the number of their patients maintained, but the unions and parishes in their turn charge it against the Common Poor Fund, which, the maintenance, worked out as a metropolitan rate, to the common charges for which alone we directly issue a precept.

smallpox patients maintained since that year are not shown owing to the comparatively insignificant number treated. The large

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE WORKS COMMITTEE FOR 1899.

February, 1900.

In the introductory portion of our last annual report we dealt in detail with the causes and conditions which led to the creation of a Works Committee in 1896, and with the steps which the committee had taken to inaugurate a sound practice for dealing with the large and important works entrusted to it.

The present report is therefore limited to a review of our operations during the year 1899, and to a record of the further steps which we have taken to develop the practice initiated by our predecessors.

**Appoint-
ments of
architects.**

When discussing in our last annual report certain important questions connected with the duties and responsibilities of the Board's professional advisers, we intimated that the Managers would be well advised if in the future they would make the engagement of each architect the subject of a written contract, and we now record with satisfaction that, as the result of our representations, the Managers on the 11th February, 1899, approved and adopted a form of agreement upon which every architect appointed by the Board will in future be engaged.

Inasmuch as in this agreement the duties and responsibilities of architects are definitely laid down, the manner of their payment clearly defined, proper limitations fixed to their powers in respect of extra works and expenditure, and provision made for reference to an arbitrator in case of disputes or differences between the Managers and their architects, it may be anticipated with confidence that the disagreements and difficulties which have arisen in the past in connection with unauthorised expenditure on extra works will be, to a great extent, if not entirely, obviated in the future.

In this connection it may be pointed out that, whilst we do not expect that large and important works will, in every instance, be carried through without some slight divergence from the original designs or some additional expenditure, and whilst there is no desire on our part to hamper unduly the discretion of the architect, it is clearly his duty to inform the Managers at the time they arise what those divergencies are, and what additional cost, if any, they will entail.

**Control
of expen-
diture.**

With the object of still further strengthening our control over expenditure on building and other works, we have in more recent contracts insisted on the insertion of a clause which expressly disallows any claim on the part of the contractor for payment for extra works involving an additional expenditure of £25 and upwards, unless such extra works shall have been duly authorised by the Works Committee and an official order for the same signed by the architect and countersigned by the Clerk.

**Engineer
to the
Board.**

We have received from the Engineer to the Board a report on the work of his department since his appointment in July, 1898, which not only deals with matters of special and general interest such as coal consumption, water softening, laundry heating, &c., but also details the

works upon which he has been engaged at the various institutions under the Board's control.

The growth of work in the Engineer's department having pointed to the necessity of affording Mr. Hatch some permanent assistance to enable him to cope satisfactorily with the various branches of his work, the Managers on the 11th February last, upon our recommendation, appointed Mr. Hilton Johnson as Assistant Engineer to the Board.

Surveyor to the Board. In our last report we referred to the decision of the Managers to leave for further consideration the question of filling up the then vacant appointment of Surveyor to the Board (in view of the more urgent need of the appointment of an Engineer to the Board), and expressed the opinion that, having regard "to the extent, variety, and importance of the works and repairs necessary for the efficient maintenance of the numerous buildings belonging to the Board," the appointment of a Surveyor, for whose services there was such abundant scope, should not be for long delayed.

It is therefore with satisfaction that we record the decision of the Managers to revive this appointment, which at the Board meeting on the 3rd June last was conferred upon Mr. Charles Edward Dance. This decision has, we think, been fully justified by the fact that the estimated value of the works carried out by Mr. Dance since his appointment amounted on the 31st December last to £13,700.

Value of works under supervision. The aggregate value of building and other works under our supervision during the past year amounted to £657,945, of which £431,818 represented the contracts previously entered into but not completed at the beginning of 1899, and the balance (£226,127) the contracts for which tenders were accepted during the year under review.

Completed works. Of the contracts completed during 1899, the more important were the erection of (i.) the Grove Hospital, (ii.) a nurses' home and a new isolation pavilion at the Northern Hospital, and (iii.) a new pavilion (opened in November, 1898), together with the reconstruction of the drainage, at the South-Western Hospital.

Other contracts completed during the past year comprise the erection of (i.) a smallpox shelter, South Wharf, Rotherhithe, at a total cost of £875 14s. 6d.; (ii.) an isolation pavilion and new workshops at the Eastern Hospital, at a total cost of £2,852 10s. 2d.; and (iii.) a home for female attendants at the Caterham Asylum, at a total cost of £5,547 17s.

In the case of each of the above contracts the expenditure incurred was slightly less than that sanctioned, the aggregate expenditure authorised on the three contracts having been £9,634 and the actual expenditure £9,276 1s. 8d.

Northern Hospital. Contracts for the installation of electric light in lieu of gas for illuminating purposes at this hospital, amounting in all to £10,586 3s. 6d., of which £2,620 represents the cost of a new boiler house and chimney shaft, were entered into by the Board partly during 1898 and partly during the early months of the year under review, and are now almost completed.

South-Eastern Hospital. Contracts for the augmentation of the steam-producing plant of this hospital, with a view to the more efficient and equable heating of the wards, were entered into during May last, and included the supply and fixing of boilers, steam pipes, and feed pumps; the supply of radiators, steam heaters, &c.; the erection of a new chimney shaft; and the execution of certain necessary alterations to the boiler house. The total amount of these contracts was £10,009.

Grove Hospital. Although this hospital was opened for the reception of patients on the 17th August, 1899, there still remained at the end of the year many important works necessary to complete its equipment. This was mainly due to the fact that the Managers on the 29th July last, acting upon the advice of their solicitors, decided to release the contractors from all liability of whatever kind, direct or indirect, under or arising out of the obligation undertaken by them, and to pay the contractors an amount which they agreed to accept in full discharge of every claim which they might have against the Managers in connection with the erection of the hospital.

An action which had been previously brought by the contractors against the Managers, and which was based on the alleged failure and delay in the delivery by the architect of and unreasonable alterations in the plans, drawings, and particulars, has still to be tried.

The works remaining to be carried out at the end of the year to complete the hospital comprised the laying out of the grounds, the provision of certain necessary cupboards and other fittings, and a number of engineering works of more or less importance.

North-Eastern Hospital. During the year satisfactory progress has been made by the contractors for the partial reconstruction of the North-Eastern Hospital.

The works comprise the erection of a permanent administration block, female staff blocks, diphtheria, enteric fever, and isolation blocks, steward's house, porter's lodge, &c., and are estimated to cost £126,850, of which £113,642 represents the value of the buildings.

Joyce Green Hospital. As the specification has been completed and the necessary quantities are now being taken out, we hope shortly to ask the Board to accept a tender for the erection of this hospital, which will be situate upon land bought for the purpose by the Managers between Dartford and Long Reach, in Kent. The architects, Messrs. A. & C. Harston, in November, 1897, estimated that this hospital would cost about £227,000 to erect, an amount which will, however, in view of the recent increased cost of labour and materials, probably be exceeded. The Joyce Green Hospital will take two years to erect, and will contain accommodation in the first instance for 400 patients, with administrative accommodation capable of serving for 940 patients, 500 of whom are to be accommodated in pavilions of a temporary character, permanent foundations for which will be included in the contract.

Southern Hospital. After prolonged discussion and correspondence with the Local Government Board, the Managers on the 4th November decided to adopt plans of single-storey cottages for the 720 ordinary patients to be accommodated in this hospital, and at the same time to increase

the unit of accommodation in each cottage from 12 to 15, and to these proposals the Local Government Board have recently given their sanction.

This increase in the unit of accommodation in each cottage permits of the substitution of 24 groups of single-storey double cottages, each providing accommodation for 30 patients, for 30 groups of 24 patients each, and will, the architects estimate, effect a reduction of about £30,000 in the cost of the hospital buildings.

On the 25th March last the Managers accepted the tender of Mr. E. C. White, of Basingstoke, to enclose for the sum of £2,494 a portion of the site of the Hospital with oak park-pale fencing, and this contract at the end of the year was practically completed.

Ophthalmic schools. On the 3rd June last, the Managers approved the finished plans prepared by Messrs. C. & W. Henman for the erection of the High Wood School at Brentwood, and on the 15th July the plans prepared by Messrs. Newman & Newman for the erection of the proposed White Oak School at Swanley.

Each of these buildings has been planned to accommodate 360 children, with a total staff, exclusive of school teachers, of 80, seven of whom will be non-resident.

The estimated cost, including purchase of land, architects' and quantity surveyor's commission, and all other charges, of the High Wood School is £123,120, while that of the White Oak School, the site of which is less favourable for building, is £133,144.

Millfield Homes. The Board having decided to erect on a site at Rustington, near Littlehampton, a seaside convalescent home, appointed Mr. Rowland Plumbe as architect, and the plans which he is preparing will shortly be submitted for approval.

Pending the erection of these homes, it has been found necessary, in consequence of the immediate proximity of the site to the shore, to take steps to protect the sea front; and, acting on our recommendation, the Board, on the 29th July last, appointed Mr. H. Howard, surveyor to the Urban District Board of Littlehampton, to supervise the execution of the necessary works, the total cost of which he estimates at £400.

East Cliff House. Plans for the provision of additional accommodation for 50 children at this home at Margate were approved by the Managers on the 6th May last, and have since received the sanction of the Local Government Board.

Messrs. C. & W. Henman, the architects, estimate the cost of this extension, which is to be provided in two additional homes of 25 beds each, at £6,938, exclusive of architects' commission and other incidental charges.

Tooting Bec Asylum. On the 21st October last the Managers accepted the tender of Messrs. W. Johnson & Co., Ltd., of Wandsworth Common, for the erection of the Tooting Bec Asylum, at the sum of £204,548, in accordance with plans prepared by Messrs. A. & C. Harston, the architects.

The total expenditure on this asylum (which has been planned to contain accommodation for 750 patients, with administrative accommodation for 930), exclusive of cost of land and the furnishing of the institution, is estimated at £247,000.

New Head Office.

The Managers' new office premises, which are now in course of erection at the corner of Carmelite Street and the Victoria Embankment, and which—exclusive of the site—are estimated to cost about £56,000, are rapidly approaching completion, and if the architect's anticipations are realised should be ready for occupation by the time stipulated in the contract, viz., 1st March, 1900. Negotiations are still in progress for the closing of the ventilator of the District Railway which opens immediately beneath the main entrance.

Minor works.

Minor works under our consideration during the year 1899 comprised the extension and rearrangement of the Leavesden Asylum laundry, the underpinning of pavilion No. 14 at the Northern Hospital, and the erection of destructors at the North-Western and Gore Farm Hospitals.

Small structural alterations.

In a report which we presented to the Managers on the 28th January, 1899, on the subject of the desirability "of notice being given to the Local Government Board of small structural alterations at the several institutions of the Managers," we pointed out grave objections to any departure from the present practice. We based our objections to some extent upon the fact that the necessity of obtaining the sanction of the Local Government Board appeared to be the best guarantee the Managers possess for submission to themselves for approval of any alteration that any committee may desire to effect, but mainly upon the more important fact that not infrequently alterations which in themselves may appear financially or structurally unimportant, and which may seem necessary or advantageous for some immediate or special purpose, may involve interference in important principles of construction or administration when considered in connection with their effect upon an institution as a whole.

To these objections we still hold, and we think that the Managers would be ill advised to sanction any departure from the existing practice.

Clerks of works.

On the 11th February, 1899, the Managers on our recommendation approved of certain regulations which we then submitted having reference to the duties, wages, &c., of clerks of works in the Managers employ, and delegated to us the power of appointing clerks of works and of fixing their remuneration within the limits of such regulations.

Appendices.

We submit the following appendices :—(A) a list of references from the Board to the Works Committee during 1899, with particulars of how such references were dealt with; (B) a list of contracts entered into by the Managers during the year 1899 for works to be carried out under the supervision of the Works Committee; and (C) a statement showing the total cost (as ascertained on completion) of works carried out under our supervision and reported to the Board during 1899.

(Signed) JAMES BROWN,
Chairman.

APPENDIX A.

List of references from the Board to the Works Committee during the year 1899, with particulars of how such references were dealt with:—

Date.	Institution.	Nature of Reference.	How dealt with.
1899. Jan. 14	... ..	To report as to the advisability of the Managers appointing an Architect or Surveyor or an Architect and Surveyor to the Board.	Appointment of a Surveyor to the Board recommended.
Apr. 22	... ..	To select a candidate for appointment as Surveyor to the Board.	Mr. C. E. Dance appointed.
Feb. 25	Western Hospital ...	Tar-paving and road-making around new wards.	Subsequently carried out under supervision of Hospitals Committee.
.. 25	Lloyd House, Pentonville	Second w.c. on ground floor ...	Plan and specification approved by Managers, and work carried out.
Mar. 11	Park Hospital	To report as to eaves gutters and roofs of corridors, and condition of roads.	Reported on.
May 6	South-Eastern Hospital...	Part of "1892 hut" to be left standing for purpose of bicycle accommodation.	26 feet of westerly portion left standing.
.. 6	Grove Hospital	To take steps for defence of action brought by contractors against the Managers.	Solicitors furnished with necessary documents, &c.
June 3	Southern Hospital ...	To appoint representatives to confer with the Local Government Board <i>re</i> plans.	Delegates appointed.
.. 17	Do.	To report, after consultation with Hospitals Committee, upon Local Government Board's observations <i>re</i> plans.	Reported on.
.. 3	S. Anne's Home	Isolation building	Adjourned, pending decision of Managers as to accommodation to be provided.
.. 17	Millfield	Probable cost of sea defence works.	Reported on.
July 15	... ..	Empowering committee to engage draughtsman for three months to assist the Engineer to the Board.	Appointment made.
.. 29	... ..	Question of having copies made for use at head office of plans of all Managers' institutions.	Under consideration.
Oct. 21	Millfield	Laundry to be provided...	Plan in course of preparation.
Dec. 2	Tooting Bec Asylum ...	Receiving houses	Position on site determined.

APPENDIX B.

Contracts entered into by the Managers during the year 1899 for works to be carried out under the supervision of the Works Committee:—

Institution.	Nature of Works.	Contractors.	Dates of Contracts.	Amounts of Contracts.		
				£	s.	d.
Northern Hospital ...	(i.) Underpinning pavilion No. 14 ...	Kirk & Randall...	May 24, 1899	136	0	0
	(ii.)* Installation of electric light:—					
	(a) Switchboards, booster, and connections ...	Cox-Walkers ...	Feb. 11, "	463	10	0
	(b) Battery ...	Hart Accumulator Co., Ltd. ...	" 11, "	318	12	0
	(c) Electrical mains ...	{ Callender's Cable and Con- struction Co., Ltd. ... }	" 11, "	773	1	6
	(d) Steam exhaust feed and drain pipes ...	R. Taylor & Sons ...	" 11, "	840	0	0
Southern Hospital ...	(e) Wiring and fittings ...	G. Weston & Co. ...	" 11, "	2,875	0	0
	(f) Boiler and engine house and chimney shaft ...	John Appleby ..	Apr. 22, "	2,620	0	0
Southern Hospital ...	Fencing in portion of site ...	E. C. White ...	Mar. 25, "	2,494	0	0
South-Eastern Hospital	New heating arrangements:—					
	(a) Boilers, steam pipes, feed pumps, &c. ...	R. Dawson & Co., Ltd. ...	May 6, "	1,910	0	0
	(b) Radiators, steam heaters, piping, &c. ...	J. C. & J. S. Ellis, Ltd. ...	" 6, "	3,272	0	0
North-Eastern Hospital ..	(c) Alterations to boiler house, and new chimney shaft	J. O. Richardson ...	June 3, "	4,827	0	0
North-Eastern Hospital ..	Fitting up kitchen department...	C. Kite & Co. ...	July 6, "	1,050	0	0
Tooting Bec Asylum ...	Erection of asylum buildings ...	W. Johnson & Co., Ltd. ...	Nov. 24, "	204,548	0	0
			Total ...	£ 226,127	3	6

* N.B.—Tenders for the supply of boilers, dynamos, and engines in connection with this installation (amounting to £2,501) were accepted by the Board on July 30th, 1898, and for the supply of auto-stokers (amounting to £195) on November 5th, 1898.

APPENDIX C.

Statement showing the total cost (as ascertained on completion) of works carried out under the supervision of the Works Committee:—

1. SOUTH WHARF SHELTER.

	£	s.	d.
H. Wall & Co., contract	£976	0	0
extra works	2	11	6
	<u>£978</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>
<i>Less</i> agreed reduction in respect of the substitution of concrete base for piling	152	0	0
	<u>826</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>6</u>
Architect's (Mr. T. W. Aldwinckle) commission, &c. ...	43	9	0
Lithography	5	14	0
Total	<u>£875</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>

Amount of Local Government Board's order, £919.

2. EASTERN HOSPITAL.

Isolation pavilion and new workshops:—

	£	s.	d.
W. Johnson & Co., Ltd., amount of contract (pavilion)	£2,061	0	0
net extra works	49	0	2
	<u>2,110</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>
Barrett & Power, amount of contract (workshops)	£550	0	0
extra works	3	15	1
	<u>553</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>1</u>
A. & C. Harston, architects' commission	135	5	9
F. H. A. Hardcastle, quantity surveyor's commission ...	20	12	2
McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., lithography	32	17	0
Total	<u>£2,852</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>2</u>

Amount of Local Government Board's orders, £2,925.

3. CATERHAM ASYLUM.

Female attendants' home:—

	£	s.	d.
S. Hipwell, on account of contract for £5,091 15s. which was determined	719	4	2
E. P. Bulled & Co., amount of contract, after deducting value of work done and materials supplied by Mr. Hipwell (£1,130 14s. 2d.)	£4,369	5	10
<i>Less</i> saving, including provision of £50 for contingencies	71	17	7
	<u>4,297</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>3</u>
E. T. Hall, architect's charges	290	6	9
Fowler & Hugman, quantity surveyors' charges... ..	92	11	0
McCorquodale & Co., Ltd., lithography	17	5	0
C. Cornes, clerk of the works, salary	£129	3	0
out-of-pocket expenses	1	18	10
	<u>131</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>10</u>
Total	<u>£5,547</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>0</u>

Amount of Local Government Board's order, £5,790.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONTRACT COMMITTEE, 1899.

19th May, 1900.

Increase in membership. The work of the Contract Committee during the past twelve months has increased in a very considerable degree, and having regard to this fact and to the important character of the work, the number of members which originally constituted the committee, viz., 12, was found to be inadequate, and the Managers sanctioned the appointment of three additional members, thus bringing the number to 15.

Furnishing of institutions. Among the causes of this increase in the work of the committee may be mentioned the complete furnishing of the Grove Hospital and the obtaining of supplies of furniture required at other institutions of the Board.

The question of the acceptance or rejection of furniture supplied by contractors has had our careful attention. At the Board meeting on the 18th November, 1899, we submitted a report upon the subject, in which we expressed the opinion that the Managers should authorise us to appoint an expert or experts, as occasion might require, for the purpose of preparing specifications of the furniture to be supplied to the various institutions, and for examining the said furniture when delivered. By these means we hope to ensure a uniform plan for determining whether the furniture supplied shall be accepted or rejected.

These proposals were generally approved and adopted, and we hope that not only will supplies in the future be of good quality, but that a saving in expenditure will be effected.

Stores Department At the Stores Department the work, although beset with difficulties, has progressed favourably. Doubtless, when contractors more clearly understand that the Managers will require supplies in accordance with the patterns upon which tenders are invited, the delay which has occurred since the opening of the department will be reduced to a minimum. In spite of these difficulties, however, the requirements of the institutions have been met on the whole in a satisfactory manner.

Additional storage accommodation. On account of the inconvenience experienced in obtaining supplies from contractors, it has been necessary to procure extra accommodation for the reception of a larger quantity of goods at one time at the Managers' stores; and our suggestion that this object could best be secured by renting the top floor of a warehouse in Mermaid Court, immediately opposite the stores, for the special accommodation of the official samples of furniture, was adopted by the Managers.

Rejection of goods. In 1897, 50 per cent. of the goods sent in to the stores had to be rejected by the superintendent as not up to samples; in 1898, 33 per cent.; and in 1899, 25 per cent.

Legal proceedings.

The Managers will recollect that they brought an action against Messrs. T. Fletcher & Sons, of Smithy Bridge, near Rochdale, for the recovery of the amount of the difference in cost incurred by purchasing real Welsh flannel against that firm, on account of their alleged failure to make supplies in accordance with the official sample.

This contention was not maintained by the evidence, and judgment was accordingly entered for the defendants.

Provisions and coal.

Provisions supplied to the institutions have been generally of a satisfactory nature, but some trouble has been caused in obtaining supplies of coal from contractors to certain of the hospitals.

Population of Board's Institutions.

The daily population for which the Managers have had to make provision during the past year was about 15,500 persons, and the total number of contracts entered into on the recommendation of the Contract Committee was about 390. The estimated cost of supplies made under these contracts was £294,000.

(Signed) P. M. MARTINEAU,
Acting Chairman.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

January 1st, 1900.

1. Our last report set forth in some detail the way in which the Board proposed to provide accommodation for the five classes of children committed to their care by the Local Government Board under their order of 2nd April, 1897; and we recorded what steps had up to the end of 1898 been taken towards accomplishing that object. During the past year our position has been to a large extent that of awaiting the development of the schemes already formulated, and in the way of new work there is, therefore, not much to recount.

2. The institutions under our care will ultimately be somewhat numerous, and very diverse in character, ranging from large schools of about 400 inhabitants to small homes of perhaps 10, or even fewer. The classes of children will also vary from those afflicted with physical and mental infirmities, or both, to children in ordinary health and strength. If, in these circumstances, the constitution of the sub-committees formed to manage these schools and homes were invariable throughout the year, a considerable proportion of the members of the whole Committee might from their own experience know little beyond the particular school or home, or group of homes, to which they might be attached.

To obviate this undoubted disadvantage, we decided at the beginning of the year to leave one vacancy on each sub-committee, and to fill it up each month by the other members in rotation. This arrangement has afforded nearly every member the opportunity of seeing, if not all the homes, at least one of each class during the year.

I. OPHTHALMIC SCHOOLS.

3. As we noted in our last report, ophthalmia is now not so prevalent in the poor law schools as in former years, and in some of them its diminution is very noticeable. We deemed it right, therefore, before building operations were actually commenced, and while there was yet time to reduce and modify our first proposals, to ascertain, if possible, whether the existing ophthalmic state of the schools still pointed to the necessity of the Board providing for so many as 720 patients. We accordingly requested Dr. Downes, Local Government Board inspector, to give us the advantage of his knowledge and his opinion on the subject; and, as in many other instances, he manifested the utmost readiness to help us. From the figures and other information thus placed at our disposal, it appeared quite clear that the Board would not be wise to reduce the accommodation already planned. No modification has therefore been made.

4. *High Wood School.*—The erection of this school has not yet been commenced, nor is it likely that it can be commenced before the spring or summer of 1900. Its completion can hardly be expected under two years from the date of commencement, and thus the Committee cannot hope to open either of their ophthalmic schools till the middle of 1902—that is, between four and five years from the purchase of the site.

It will be recollected that the sketch plan of this school received the approval of the Local Government Board in the autumn of 1898. The first half of the year following was consumed in the completion and elaboration of the plans—work which necessitated numerous conferences between the architects and the Works Committee. The three months between the end of the summer vacation and the end of the year were occupied in modifying the plans, partly according to the suggestions of the Local Government Board and partly according to suggestions received from other sources.

The finished plans were forwarded to the Local Government Board towards the end of the year, and received their approval within a month.

6. *White Oak School*.—The plans of this school have been subjected to a somewhat similar process, and received the approval of the Local Government Board in December, 1899.

II. RINGWORM.

7. The negotiations for the purchase of the schools at Sutton—the property of the South Metropolitan District Board—which at the date of our last report were in progress, have now been concluded, and are referred to in the Board's own report. The order of the Local Government Board whereby the district was to be dissolved as from 30th September, 1899, has been amended by another order extending the time for dissolution for 12 months, and thus the girls' school, which, as already stated, is to be used for the accommodation of children afflicted with ringworm, will not pass into the Managers' possession for some time.

III. CONVALESCENTS.

8. *S. Anne's Home, Herne Bay*.—Owing to the occasional importation of infectious or contagious disease into this home, we have decided that some isolation accommodation, separate and apart from the home—which, it should be borne in mind, is all under one roof—should be provided. The Board have adopted our view, and plans will shortly be ready.

9. *East Cliff House, Margate*.—The plans of the extension to be built on the ground at the rear of this house were approved by the Managers in May last; were subsequently modified at the suggestion of the Local Government Board and received that Board's formal approval in August last.

Building operations had not, however, been commenced at the date of this report.

10. *Millfield, Rustington*.—The plans for these homes have been much debated, and were not at the end of the year in their final form.

IV. DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

11. *Lloyd House*.—This house was opened on 16th January, 1899, for the accommodation of 20 girls of feeble mind. The home is in charge of a working matron, assisted by a cook, a housemaid, and a girl to assist generally. A medical attendant and a dentist have been appointed, and pay regular visits to the home. The children attend the special classes of the School Board for London, at the

Hugh Myddelton School, Clerkenwell. When at home the children are encouraged to assist in domestic work, but they are yet too young to be of much real help. The children are taken to church on Sundays, and the home is regularly visited by the clergy of the parish.

12. It may be expected that after 12 months' experience we should have something to say on the result of this experiment—for such, as we pointed out in our former report, it undoubtedly was.

Though the time is, in our opinion, not yet ripe for us to offer any definite opinion on the point, yet we may here note that in the opinion of the sub-committee who manage the home the results hitherto achieved are distinctly promising. The physical condition of the children is certainly improved. They are brighter than when first received and more capable. They can now make their beds, clean their shoes, and wash their hands and faces properly, none of which things they could do at first.

By the courtesy of the School Board we have already been furnished with reports of the teachers on the progress of each child, and we are promised similar reports half-yearly; and, judging from those already received, the progress made by the children is in most cases quite as good as could be expected.

It must not be forgotten that more than half the number of children are under 12 years of age; and that it is expected each child will remain at school till the age of 15 is reached. It is, therefore, clearly too early yet to make any estimate of the value of the work which has only just begun at the school.

13. How to render the children's leisure hours happy has engaged much of our attention. It will be remembered that the Local Government Board stipulated that proper arrangements should be made for the children to "mix with other children "in their play, under proper supervision." Acting on this instruction we decided that when the weekly holidays were fine the children should be taken with their playthings to one or other of the open spaces near the home to play with the other children there. During the longer school holidays we decided that they should be sent to such places of amusement as the London parks and the Zoological Gardens, and other places of interest and instruction. Visits of relatives and friends are allowed once a month, and in wet weather the children receive from the matron singing lessons and musical drill at home.

14. *No. 16, Elm Grove, Peckham.*—Two attempts to obtain houses in Hackney proved abortive, owing to the discovery of restrictive covenants in the leases. Subsequently (March, 1899) this house was purchased, which will accommodate a dozen boys, more or less, of feeble mind, who will attend the special classes of the Choumert Road Board School close by. The house is old, and will require much alteration and repair. Sketch plans of the alterations were approved by the Managers in July; elaborated and sent to the Local Government Board in September; returned for amendment in October, and finally approved in December.

15. We are now engaged in finding suitable houses in Fulham and Hackney.

V. REMAND CHILDREN.

16. Geographical restrictions and character and extent of the buildings required have greatly limited our range of choice of houses, and have greatly added to our difficulties. We have in all considered the merits of nearly 20 properties, and have inspected most of them—some, indeed, several times. Protracted negotiations for the purchase of suitable houses in Peckham and Islington resulted in the final withdrawal of the offer in each case. Decisions to use a house in Hampstead, already the property of the Board, and to purchase a group of houses in Pentonville Road have been arrived at, but as the necessary approvals had not at the end of the year been received, details are reserved for our next report.

17. *Nos. 36, 37, 38, Camberwell Green.*—In March, 1899, one of these houses was acquired by the Board; a month later the adjoining house; and in June the third house. Actual possession of the whole property has not yet been obtained. The houses are conveniently placed for access from the group of police courts on the south side of the Thames, and will, we think, give all the accommodation likely to be needed for that group.

(Signed) G. S. ELLIOTT,
Chairman.

APPENDIX.

PARTICULARS OF HOMES AND SCHOOLS.

I. OPHTHALMIC SCHOOLS.

- (1.) *High Wood School, Brentwood.*—Site (28 acres) purchased in November, 1897, for £2,300.

Plans for a school of 360 beds have been completed, and building operations will probably commence early in 1900.

- (2.) *White Oak School, Swanley.*—Site (49 acres) purchased in December, 1897, for £5,050.

Plans for a school of 360 beds have been completed, and building operations will probably commence early in 1900.

II. SEASIDE HOMES.

- (1.) *S. Anne's Home, Herne Bay.*—Purchased, with contents, for £17,000, and taken over 26th December, 1897. (Originally established in 1874.)

Accommodation, 134 beds.

There is a playground and a garden (in all about $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres) at the rear of the house. An isolation building is about to be erected on part of the ground.

Cost per head for maintenance and clothing, $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per day, or, including all charges, 1s. $10\frac{1}{2}$ d.

Matron, Miss Emily Turton.

Ages of admission are at present—girls, 3-16; boys, 3-12.

- (2.) **East Cliff House, Margate.**—Purchased, with contents, for £9,000 and taken over 26th June, 1898.

Accommodation, 41 beds.

There is a playground and a garden (in all about $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres) at the rear of the house on part of which two houses, to hold 25 children each, will shortly be erected.

Cost per head for maintenance and clothing, $6\frac{1}{2}$ d. per day, or, including all charges, 2s. $4\frac{3}{4}$ d.

Matron, Miss Emily K. Jacob.

Ages of admission are at present—girls, 3–16; boys, 3–12.

- (3.) **Millfield, Rustington.**—Site ($5\frac{1}{2}$ acres) purchased in November, 1898, for £850.

Plans for three houses, to hold 25 children each, are in course of preparation.

III. DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

- (1.) **Lloyd House, Lloyd Street, Pentonville, W.C.**—Lease of house (13 years from Christmas, 1898) purchased for £650, and opened 16th January, 1899.

To accommodate 20 girls of defective intellect.

The children attend the special classes at the Hugh Myddelton Board School in Clerkenwell Close, E.C.

Cost per head for maintenance and clothing, $6\frac{1}{4}$ d. per day, or, including all charges, 1s. $10\frac{3}{4}$ d.

Matron, Miss Annie Green.

Ages of admission, 7–14.

- (2.) **No. 16, Elm Grove, Peckham.**—House purchased in March, 1899, for £1,000. Will accommodate 12 or 14 boys of defective intellect. The children will attend the special classes at the Choumert Road Board School, Peckham.

Extensive alterations are required, and the house will probably be opened early in 1900.

IV.—REMAND CHILDREN.

- (1.) **Nos. 36, 37, 38, Camberwell Green.**

No. 37 was purchased in March, 1899, for £1,230.

No. 36 " April, " " £1,500.

No. 38 " June, " " £750.

These houses are intended to take children remanded from all the police courts on the south side of the Thames, under the Industrial Schools Act, 1866.

Actual possession of the whole property has not yet been obtained.

ANNUAL REPORT OF TRAINING SHIP "EXMOUTH" COMMITTEE.

1st January, 1900.

1. In May last some reconstruction of the internal work of the Board **Committee.** took place. The principal feature of the change was that each group of institutions of a like nature should be administered by a central committee responsible to the Board, instead of as formerly by separate committees, each responsible to the Board for its own particular work. And it was at that time proposed that the "Exmouth" should be placed under the newly-formed Children's Committee. This proposal was, however, rejected by the Board, and thus we are able, as in former years, to present a separate report on the working of the ship during the past twelve months. We cannot but feel gratified that the Board by this decision recognised that the position of the "Exmouth" is unique, and that the ship could not properly be classed with any other institution or group of institutions.

2. It is a little disappointing to have to note that, notwithstanding **Vacancies on the ship.** the really creditable record of the ship and the conspicuous success of the past year, the metropolitan boards of guardians do not avail themselves of the ship to the extent that could be expected. This condition of things is not of recent occurrence, for the ship in past years has rarely been quite full, and on that account the practice of receiving boys from country unions was commenced—as long ago as 1892.

At the end of the past year there were nearly 100 boys from country unions on board, and there were nearly 100 vacancies, so that the metropolitan boards of guardians were utilising this most suitable and excellent means of bringing up their boys and starting them in life to the extent of only about 400 in the aggregate. The work of the ship is beyond question valuable from two points of view—it is perhaps the best training that the boys could have, and at the same time it is a service to the State in providing men for the Royal Navy. It is therefore to us a matter of regret to see this means of benefiting both the State and the boys appreciated so much less than it might be.

Records of visitors. 3. The following are some of the records made by visitors and others during the year :—

(i.) *Mr. J. R. Mozley, Inspector of Poor Law Schools (29th March, 1899) :—*

I have inspected the school on board the "Exmouth" to-day and the two preceding days.

The boys have a very good knowledge of the elementary subjects of examination, and their religious knowledge is creditable to them.

Some have a very good knowledge of geography, but a more universal knowledge of this subject (so important to sailors) might be aimed at.

The exercises in seamanship were (as well as I was able to judge) creditably done, and nothing can be better than the drill and gymnastics.

- (ii.) *Chairman (Mr. Harston) and Secretary (Mr. Aslet) of the Association of Superintendents of Poor Law Schools (14th June, 1899):—*

The association, having been again kindly invited by Captain Bouchier, have visited the "Exmouth" to-day, and having seen the boys go through their physical and gymnastic exercises, field gun, big gun, small arms, and other drills, have been highly gratified with all they have seen, and would particularly remark upon the new muscle drill which has great possibilities for good in developing the physical powers of the boys. The quickness, smartness, and precision of the movements of the boys is extremely creditable to all concerned in this training.

The whole work was gone through not as work, but with a spirit and zest which testified that the boys themselves were enjoying it, and knowing as we do so many of the boys personally, we were very pleased to find by their smiling and happy countenances a high testimony to the good organisation, management, and discipline of the ship under the command of Captain Bouchier, R.N.

- (iii.) *Bromley Guardians (19th July, 1899):—*

A sub-committee of the guardians of the Bromley Union have this day visited the "Exmouth."

They desire to place upon record their most unqualified gratification at all they saw.

The physical drill was admirable—the discipline perfect; but the most eloquent testimony to the admirable and kindly tone evidently prevailing on board is the happy, cheerful, and alert way in which all the boys responded to the commands of their officers.

The sub-committee heartily congratulate Captain Bouchier upon the great success he has achieved.

- (iv.) *Mr. J. G. Ketchen (26th July, 1899):—*

On behalf of the large company of friends who visited the "Exmouth" on Saturday last, I desire to tender to Captain Bouchier my appreciative thanks for the enjoyable and instructive time he enabled us to pass. . . . We were all particularly impressed with the appearance of the boys. I do not refer now to the dress, of course, but to the evidences of right training. The healthy cheeks and bright, responsive eyes spoke of sane minds in healthy bodies, and the manner in which the evolutions were performed, to the close observer, were indicative not merely of physical power, but of a sense of mental responsibility. . . . If I may say so, you have succeeded in finding out how to bring out the good qualities of the boys and to repress the bad, and the absolute evidences we saw of this on Saturday last were most gratifying.

- (v.) *Richmond Union, Surrey (27th July, 1899):—*

The committee of guardians of this union, consisting of Mr. Dimpleby (chairman), Mrs. French, Miss Foster Newton, and Mr. Hornby, who yesterday visited the training ship "Exmouth," and saw the five boys chargeable to this union, have instructed me to express to the captain-superintendent the great pleasure which it afforded them to observe the healthy and happy appearance of the boys under his charge, and the general arrangements made for their health, education, and advancement, and to thank him for the courteous reception given to them, and for the trouble taken by him and the other officers of the ship to render information.

- (vi.) *Poplar Guardians (30th September, 1899):—*

Mr. James Anderson and Mr. J. R. Smith, two of the guardians of the Poplar Union, have this day visited this ship, and desire to express their satisfaction with the condition they found the boys in, and the way they are evidently cared for and trained.

There can be little doubt that, were all boys at the metropolitan poor law schools who are physically and otherwise suitable sent to the ship, it would soon be filled, and probably a second ship also.

Neither the reason for this neglect of the opportunities offered by the ship nor the proposal of a remedy is for us now to inquire into, but we feel it our duty to remind the Board, as we have on former occasions, of this aspect of the work entrusted to us.

- Statistics.** 4. The twenty-fourth annual report of the Captain-superintendent, which is appended, gives the usual statistical tables and other information.
- Expenditure.** 5. The cost per head per day for maintenance and clothing was for the two half-years ended Lady-day and Michaelmas $10\frac{1}{2}d.$ and $8\frac{3}{4}d.$ respectively; and, including all charges (except outfits for boys going to sea and repayment of amounts raised on loan), 2s. and 1s. $8\frac{1}{4}d.$ respectively.
- Repairs.** 6. Extensive repairs to the hull, deck, and other parts of the ship have been carried out during the year, at a cost of between £4,000 and £5,000.
- Annual inspection and prizes.** 7. The annual inspection of the ship was held on 24th June, when, as the report of the Captain-superintendent shows, Vice-Admiral Sir Compton E. Domvile, K.C.B., distributed the prizes. We have again to thank those named in the tables on pp. 61 and 71, for their kindness in presenting four silver watches.
- Staff.** 8. It is hardly necessary to say that our appreciation of the work of the Captain-superintendent and his staff continues as high as heretofore, but the continued success of the ship is his and their best tribute.

(Signed) A. B. R. MYERS,

Chairman.

TRAINING SHIP "EXMOUTH."

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CAPTAIN-SUPERINTENDENT FOR THE YEAR 1899.

To the Managers of the Training Ship "Exmouth."

1st January, 1900.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Twenty-fourth Annual Report. The following table shows the number of admissions and discharges during 1899, as well as during the previous 23 years.

Statistics. I regret to have to record the death of one boy during the past twelve months. I may mention here that during the last 23 years 5 of them passed without having one death, and 8 passed with only one death for each year.

		BOYS ADMITTED AND DISCHARGED.																							TOTALS.
		1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898		1899
YEAR ...	...	194	188	210	289	226	348	358	326	267	374	241	301	329	290	223	322	299	307	278	347	325	323	341	7,192
Admitted ...	...	1	6	1	8	72	85	155	141	95	128	114	95	87	104	108	89	83	102	133	163	137	129	140	2,308
Discharged to Royal Navy...	...	53	19	126	115	105	107	109	96	106	91	107	93	141	171	134	75	69	90	87	96	109	112	135	2,458
Discharged to Mercantile Marine, of whom 40 were enrolled in Royal Naval Reserve ...	...	9	11	9	31	17	27	46	74	61	43	55	36	18	56	48	42	66	28	26	37	49	28	58	907
Discharged to Army as Musicians ...	...	1	...	2	...	3	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	12
Discharged to Unions by order of respective Boards of Guardians and Committee ...	...	21	23	47	30	61	43	27	33	52	39	49	44	45	44	36	18	51	34	54	41	51	29	29	940
Boys died ...	...	...	...	2	1	...	4	1	...	2	2	5	1	2	1	1	...	1	3	2	1	3	2	1	36
Totals...	...	85	59	187	185	258	206	338	344	318	303	330	269	233	376	327	235	270	257	303	338	350	300	373	6,661
		Total number of boys discharged ...																							6,661
		Remaining under training 31st December, 1899																							531
		Total																							7,192

The number of boys discharged during the last 18 years averages 311 per year.

The following table shows the number of boys admitted from each of the metropolitan unions and parishes and from country unions during the year 1899 and during the whole time the ship has been established, viz. :—

Year ending 31st December, 1899.	NAMES OF UNIONS AND PARISHES.	From 31st March, 1876, to 31st December, 1899.
<i>Metropolitan Parishes and Unions.</i>		
1	City of London	117
11	Fulham	243
11	Greenwich	379
10	Hackney	239
24	Holborn	219
4	Hammersmith	4
25	Lewisham	600
6	Mile End	177
8	Poplar	373
10	St. George's-in-the-East	123
2	St. George's Union	263
4	St. Giles, Bloomsbury	38
20	St. Giles, Camberwell	360
..	St. John, Hampstead	29
...	St. Leonard, Shoreditch	135
5	St. Luke, Chelsea... ..	148
11	St. Mary, Islington	225
5	St. Mary, Kensington	182
28	St. Mary, Lambeth	401
9	St. Marylebone	477
3	St. Mary, Paddington	137
5	St. Matthew, Bethnal Green	173
3	St. Olave's... ..	256
18	St. Pancras	420
23	St. Saviour's	404
5	Stepney	98
2	Strand	30
9	Wandsworth and Clapham	187
1	Westminster	53
3	Whitechapel	144
8	Woolwich	315
<i>Country Unions.</i>		
...	Willesden	1
...	Stockport	2
1	Bromley	10
3	Bedford	17
6	Strood	33
1	Medway	21
7	Kingston	28
1	St. Albans	2
...	Martley	3
Carried forward } 293	Carried forward	7,066

Admissions from country unions commenced only in the latter part of 1892.

Year ending 31st December, 1899.	NAMES OF UNIONS AND PARISHES.	From 31st March, 1876, to 31st December, 1899.
Brought forward } 293	Brought forward ...	7,066
2	Worcester	16
...	Brentford	9
5	Richmond	9
...	Gateshead	1
...	Bicester	1
...	Hendon	1
...	Hambleton	1
...	Epsom	3
...	Leeds	1
...	Dewsbury	2
...	Watford	6
...	Warwick	1
...	Croydon	2
...	Haslingden... ..	1
...	Eastbourne... ..	1
4	Isle of Thanet	7
4	Maidstone	10
1	Gravesend	2
1	Steyning	3
26	West Ham... ..	30
...	Chelmsford	2
...	Newbury ... ..	...
...	Aston ... ..	...
1	Kettering	1
...	Reigate ... ..	...
1	Chippenham	1
1	Westhampnett	1
1	Dorking	1
1	Banbury	1
Total, 341		
	Chichester	1
	Croydon	2
	Dorking	1
	Ecclesall	1
	Epping	1
	Eton	1
	Horsham	3
	Tonbridge	1
	Wilton	1
Total		7,192

Admissions from country unions commenced only in the latter part of 1892.

These boys were in the establishment when the Metropolitan Asylums Board took it over from the Managers of the Forest Gate District Schools.

Of the 4,766 boys discharged to sea service from 31st March, 1876, to 31st December, 1899—

- 2,308 went into the royal navy.
- 1,156 went into ships in the Baltic and coasting and other short voyages, such as the Mediterranean, &c.
- 420 went into ships trading to North and South America.
- 141 went into ships in the West India trade.
- 150 went into ships going to the East Indies, China, and Japan.
- 439 went into ships trading to the Australian colonies.
- 152 went into ships trading to the Cape, Africa, and Mauritius.

Total 4,766

The positions the above number of 4,766 boys occupied on board the ships they first went to sea in are as follows, viz. :—

- 2,308 entered the royal navy as boys.
- 490 shipped as ordinary seamen in the mercantile marine.
- 1,466 shipped as deck and cabin boys do.
- 128 shipped as apprentices do.
- 360 shipped as assistant cooks and stewards do.
- 14 shipped as buglers do.

Total 4,766

Shipping Home at Limehouse.

The following table shows the number of boys shipped each year from the home at Limehouse to the mercantile marine. This does not include boys who are assisted to get ships for a second, third, and sometimes a fourth voyage. Twelve boys were assisted in this manner during the year. These twelve back boys in many cases were boys who had left the sea for a time to work on shore and became tired of shore life or, fascinated with the training they had had on board the "Exmouth," applied to me for help to get to sea again, from whom they were sent to Mr. Miller, shipping officer, to ship if possible, and I am glad to be able to say he was successful in getting them away to sea again. The shipping home is also a place of call for old boys, to look up their chums who were on board the "Exmouth" with them, and to get general news of merchant ships.

YEAR.	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	TOTAL
Number shipped	53	19	126	115	105	107	109	96	106	91	107	93	141	171	134	75	69	90	87	96	109	112	112	135	2,458

Army. The boys discharged to the army since 25th March, 1876, joined the undermentioned regiments as band boys, viz. :—

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 to the Royal Horse Artillery. | 6 to the Dragoon Guards. |
| 19 „ Royal Artillery. | 1 „ 3rd Hussars. |
| 1 „ Royal Engineers. | 1 „ 4th Hussars |

2 to the 5th Lancers.	21 to the Scots Fusiliers, Royal.
1 ,, 11th Hussars.	5 ,, Scottish Rifles.
6 ,, Berkshire Regiment, Royal.	2 ,, Seaforth Highlanders.
16 ,, Border Regiment.	8 ,, Shropshire Light Infantry.
10 ,, Cheshire Regiment.	22 ,, Somersetshire Light Infantry.
44 ,, Connaught Rangers.	1 ,, Staffordshire Regiment, North.
21 ,, Derbyshire Regiment.	16 ,, Staffordshire Regiment, South.
2 ,, Devonshire Regiment.	21 ,, Suffolk Regiment.
9 ,, Dorsetshire Regiment.	7 ,, Surrey Regiment, Royal West.
26 ,, Dublin Fusiliers, Royal.	25 ,, Sussex Regiment, Royal.
7 ,, Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry.	16 ,, Wales Borderers, South.
14 ,, Durham Light Infantry.	29 ,, Warwickshire Regiment, Royal.
34 ,, Essex Regiment.	11 ,, Welsh Fusiliers, Royal.
5 ,, Gloucestershire Regiment.	32 ,, Welsh Regiment.
12 ,, Gordon Highlanders.	1 ,, West Riding Regiment.
5 ,, Highland Light Infantry.	6 ,, Lancashire Regiment, East.
7 ,, Inniskilling Fusiliers, Royal.	5 ,, Lancashire Regiment, Loyal North.
19 ,, Irish Fusiliers, Royal.	17 ,, Lancashire Regiment, South.
10 ,, Irish Rifles, Royal.	3 ,, Lancashire Regiment, Royal.
9 ,, Kent Regiment, East.	7 ,, Leicester Regiment.
5 ,, Kent Regiment, Royal West.	4 ,, Leinster Regiment.
5 ,, King's Own Scottish Borderers.	4 ,, Lincolnshire Regiment.
21 ,, King's Royal Rifle Corps.	3 ,, Liverpool Regiment.
13 ,, Lancashire Fusiliers.	39 ,, Manchester Regiment.
1 ,, 13th Hussars.	14 ,, Middlesex Regiment.
1 ,, 19th Hussars.	2 ,, Munster Fusiliers, Royal.
9 ,, 20th Hussars.	6 ,, Cameron Highlanders.
2 ,, 21st Hussars.	11 ,, Northamptonshire Regiment.
8 ,, Grenadier Guards.	6 ,, Wiltshire Regiment.
4 ,, Coldstream Guards.	9 ,, Worcestershire Regiment.
1 ,, Scots Guards.	21 ,, York and Lancaster Regiment.
20 ,, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.	27 ,, Yorkshire Light Infantry
7 ,, Northumberland Fusiliers.	9 ,, Yorkshire Regiment.
13 ,, Oxfordshire Light Infantry.	13 ,, Yorkshire Regiment, East.
17 ,, Rifle Brigade.	8 ,, Yorkshire Regiment, West.
16 ,, Royal Fusiliers.	1 ,, Army Hospital Corps.
3 ,, Royal Highlanders.	
1 ,, Royal Marine Light Infantry.	907 Total.
40 ,, Scots, Royal (Lothian Regiment).	—

Seaman-ship. Greater facilities have been given to all classes during the past year to learn that most important branch of a seaman's work, viz., heaving the lead and steering by wheel and compass, the third launch having been fitted with the necessary platforms, wheel, &c., for that purpose. Many of the boys have become most efficient in getting soundings, and as each boy receives a certificate in this instruction before leaving for the shipping home, it has proved a great advantage to the lads in obtaining suitable berths in the mercantile marine.

Every advantage was taken during the summer months to drill the boys aloft in making and furling sail, and on all suitable occasions boat sailing and boat practice were carried on.

The riggers' class under their instructors and the hired sail-maker have used 892 yards of canvas and 196 fathoms of bolt rope for sails, awnings, &c., and also 480 yards of canvas for making hammocks.

The progress in signalling and sail-making during the past year has been most satisfactory, and nearly all the hammocks used on board are now made by the boys.

Promotions in seamanship from one class to another are shown in the following table:—

From 5th class to 4th class	..	..	..	..	335
„ 4th „ 3rd „	..	..	..	..	318
„ 3rd „ 2nd „	..	..	..	..	298
„ 2nd „ 1st „	..	..	..	..	353
„ 1st „ Riggers (fit for sea)	..	..	..	..	229
					<hr/>
					1,533
					<hr/>

Brigantine As in previous years, the brigantine was kept cruising from April to September inclusive, during which time a large number of boys received much valuable instruction in practical seamanship.

In May, and again in August, the vessel was sent to the western ports, with the result that 75 boys entered the royal navy from the brigantine during the two cruises.

The cruising, with the healthful work and change it gives, continues to be popular with the boys, who are much stimulated for a sea life by what they see at the naval ports, where the brigantine is always visited by numbers of our old boys.

While on such detached duties, Mr. Hall, the master of the brigantine, is frequently brought into contact with many former "Exmouth" boys, who are doing well in the service, as noted by his reports to me from time to time, and the number is embodied in the annexed list of boys heard of during the past year.

Gunnery. Out of the large number of boys discharged during the year 1899, 265 were discharged from the following classes of gunnery:—

Leading Gunners	..	..	..	..	90
1st Class „	..	..	..	..	86
2nd „ „	..	..	..	..	51
3rd „ „	..	..	..	..	38
					<hr/>
					265
					<hr/>

The above boys had a good knowledge of rifle, cutlass, and truck gun drill. The leading gunners, in addition to the above, were well up in field gun drill.

Ambulance Class. A certain number of the leading boys and those likely to go away soon have been formed into an ambulance class to afford "first aid" to injured persons.

The class received five weekly lectures from Dr. Osborn, J.P., during April and May.

The examiner appointed by the St. John Ambulance Association was Dr. Coates, R.N., Deputy Inspector of Hospitals and Fleets, who says in his report :—

11th May, 1899.

“In accordance with a request of the St. John Ambulance Association authorities, I carried out, on the 9th inst., the examination of your ambulance class. Thirty-two candidates were presented for examination, 28 of whom competed for the certificate and four came up for the first re-examination. Twenty-three of the former passed successfully, and the four candidates for re-examination were successful.

“The excellent discipline of the class, the healthy looks of the lads, and the cleanliness and good order of the ship most favourably impressed me.

“I mention the following boys in order of merit :—

Richard King, first re-examination	..	}	1
James Faber, first examination	..	}	
William Faber	..	..	2
Carl H. Krøeger	..	..	3
Samuel Dowsett	..	..	4
Arthur Chandler	..	..
George Hopercroft	..	..
Ernest Sewell	..	..	5
George Trotman	..	..
Thomas Bethray	..	..

“ (Signed) MATTHEW COATES, M.D.,
 “ *Retired Deputy Inspector of Hospitals, R.N.*”

Gymnastics. The results of this important part of the boys' training were above the average of last year, and the services of a very competent and independent judge having been engaged to conduct the examination, I received the following report from him :—

19th June, 1899.

“It was my pleasing duty on Saturday last to examine the boys on board training ship ‘Exmouth’ in gymnastics.

“Though the boys to me appeared younger, certainly smaller, than in some previous years, yet I found them in excellent training, and their work would bear favourable comparison with that of former times, and is certainly ahead of the gymnastics shown by the schoolboy of our better-class schools.

“Great credit is due to their instructor, for he evidently teaches in such a way that the boys like their work, and he not only turns out the boys strong and agile, but also with plenty of pluck and hardihood.

“I may say that the whole of the work shown was very satisfactory.

“ (Signed) JAS. HARVIE,
 “ *Gymnastic Examiner.*”

The following is the result of the gymnastic competition, which took place in June, 1899 :—

No. on Ship's Books.	NAME.	No. on Watch Bill.	UNION OR PARISH.	No. of marks obtained.	PRIZES.	DESTINATION.]
6191	*C. Ward ...	85	Wandsworth...	83	15s.	M. Marine.
6251	G. Leech ...	140	St. Saviour's...	77	Silver Watch†... ..	"
6141	R. Spinks ...	368	St. Saviour's	73	10s.	"
6476	S. Applin ...	184	City of London	73	7s. 6d.	Still on board.
6097	W. White ...	577	Paddington ...	72	5s.	"
6037	F. Hart... ..	592	Bethnal Green	71	2s. 6d.	M. Marine.
6127	R. Taylor ...	243	St. Pancras ...	70	... ..	Still on board.
6178	C. Mason ...	327	Holborn ...	68	... ..	M. Marine.
6431	F. Moore ...	278	Woolwich ..	68	... ..	Still on board.
6132	G. Nuding ...	553	St. Pancras ...	65	... ..	"
6282	W. Davis ...	480	Woolwich ...	62	... ..	Royal Navy.
6130	A. Burton ..	109	St. Pancras ...	61	... ..	Still on board.
6456	W. Long ...	530	Lambeth ...	61	... ..	Army.
6275	W. Chapple..	275	Hammersmith	57	... ..	M. Marine.
6339	W. Faber ...	254	Mile End ...	57	... ..	"
6753	H. Strong ...	189	St. Pancras ...	55	... ..	Still on board.
6440	E. Sullivan ..	571	Bethnal Green	54	... ..	"
6631	E. Gibbings ...	237	Chelsea... ..	54	... ..	Army.
6602	S. Cheesewright	279	St. Pancras ...	54	... ..	Royal Navy.
6142	A. Stevens ...	14	St. Saviour's...	53	... ..	Still on board.
6489	A. Jones ...	162	Whitechapel	49	... ..	"
5986	J. Tyrrell ...	548	Lewisham ...	47	... ..	"
6759	H. Partridge...	533	St. Saviour's...	47	... ..	Friends.
6544	W. Alexander	300	Wandsworth	44	... ..	M. Marine.

The following figures will show the proficiency at 1st January, 1899, and the number trained and remaining at 31st December, 1899 :—

	1st January, 1899.	31st December, 1899.
Special Class	100	95
1st	130	123
2nd	113	135
3rd	132	140
4th	88	38
Total	563	531

Certificates issued during 1899 :—

From 4th Class to 3rd Class	325
.. 3rd .. 2nd	268
.. 2nd .. 1st	220
.. 1st .. Special	194
Total	1,007

* This boy won the first prize, silver watch, for swimming in the year 1898, and therefore was not eligible for another silver watch as a first prize.

† Given by Mr. James Brown.

Swimming. The following is the result of the swimming competition, which took place in June, 1899:—

No. on Ship's Books.	NAME.	No. on Watch Bill.	UNION OR PARISH.	Lengths.	DISTANCE SWUM IN ONE HOUR.	DESTINATION.
6178	C. Mason ..	327	Holborn ...	144	1½ miles and 240 yds.	M. Marine.
6200	T. Sparks ...	421	Whitechapel ..	136	1½ ,, ,, 80 ,,	Army.
6719	H. Averley ...	355	Shoreditch ...	136	1½ ,, ,, 80 ,,	Royal Navy .
6602	S. Cheesewright	279	St. Pancras ...	126	1¼ ,, ,, 320 ,,	,,
6044	J. Gray... ..	472	Stepney ...	126	1¼ ,, ,, 320 ,,	Still on board.
6318	E. Sewell ...	36	Willesden ...	120	1¼ ,, ,, 200 ,,	M. Marine.
6254	R. Saunders... ..	3	Lewisham ...	112	1¼ ,, ,, 40 ,,	,,
6483	T. White ...	350	Whitechapel ..	110	1¼ ,,	Still on board.
6631	E. Gibbings... ..	237	Chelsea... ..	110	1¼ ,,	Army.
6436	H. Ryder ...	360	Bethnal Green	108	1 mile and 400 yds.	,,
6961	C. Beard ...	490	Lambeth ...	108	1 ,, ,, 400 ,,	Still on board.
6142	A. Stevens ...	14	St. Saviour's... ..	108	1 ,, ,, 400 ,,	,,
6645	B. Hales ...	91	Stepney ...	104	1 ,, ,, 320 ,,	,,
6672	W. Chalk ..	83	Fulham ...	98	1 ,, ,, 200 ,,	,,

This year the prizes were awarded to the boys who swam the longest distance in one hour, and the following is the list of prize winners:—

C. Mason	... ..	1st Prize, Silver Watch, presented by Ship Committee.
H. Averley	... ..	2nd ,, Silver Medal, presented by Mr. Taylor, Medallist.
T. Sparks	... ..	3rd ,, 15s. 0d.
S. Cheesewright	... ..	4th ,, 8s. 9d. } Tie
J. Gray	... ..	5th ,, 8s. 9d. } Allowed by Committee.
E. Sewell	... ..	6th ,, 5s. 0d.
R. Saunders	... ..	7th ,, 2s. 6d.

Number of boys who could not swim 1st January, 1899	48
,, ,, admitted	341
Total	389

Number actually taught to swim	268
,, passed into 4th Class from 5th Class	268
,, ,, 3rd ,, ,, 4th ,, ,,	320
,, ,, 2nd ,, ,, 3rd ,, ,,	275
,, ,, 1st ,, ,, 2nd ,, ,,	228
,, ,, Special ,, ,, 1st ,, ,,	310
Total	1,669

The table below shows the number of boys in the swimming classes on 31st December, 1898, and 31st December, 1899 :—

	1898.	1899.
In 5th Class	60	45
„ 4th „	109	66
„ 3rd „	90	104
„ 2nd „	97	93
„ 1st „	106	58
„ Special „	101	165
Total	563	531

School. The report of J. R. Mozley, Esq., H.M. Inspector of Poor Law Schools, furnishes the following remarks upon school work :—“ I have inspected the school on board the training ship ‘Exmouth’ to-day (29th March, 1899) and two preceding days. The boys have a very good knowledge of the elementary subjects of examination, and their religious knowledge is creditable to them.”

The use of geographical readers has added considerable interest to the subjects of both geography and reading.

We all sincerely regret the great loss to the whole staff by the lamentable death through accidental drowning of Mr. J. Walsh, assistant schoolmaster, whose work was thoroughly consistent and successful throughout his career on board. The vacancy thus unfortunately created and also the resignation of Mr. Parker to take up an appointment under the London School Board made necessary a rearrangement of the school staff, Mr. Bolt, after nearly six years’ service, being promoted first assistant, Mr. J. Holmes to second assistant, while the appointment of Messrs. H. Columbine and S. Robinson complete the school’s staff.

The boys showed their continued interest in the subject of drawing by scoring another “excellent” result at the last examination.

Our main deck reading, writing, and quiet games room remains as popular as ever with the lads; the schoolmaster in charge supplying all writing materials, exercising censorship over all letters received for the boys and their replies to inquiring friends.

Our choir, principally composed of the younger lads, adds considerably to the pleasure of the ship’s company.

The lantern lectures illustrating the most recent geographical and historical events are ably conducted by the head schoolmaster, and prove a pleasant method of imparting useful information.

School Prize List. The school prizes kindly granted by the Committee prove a decided stimulus to all the lads.

STANDARD OR CLASS.	No. on Ship's Books.	NAME.	No. on Watch Bill.	PRIZES.	UNION OR PARISH.	DESTINATION.
VII.	6262	C. Clarke ...	273	s. d. 4 6	Islington ...	Royal Navy.
"	6378	J. Watson ...	384	4 6	Lewisham ...	Still on board.
"	6534	S. Stuart ...	291	3 0	" ...	"
"	6714	J. Holland ...	424	3 0	Strood ...	"
"	6764	W. Street ...	337	0	Epsom ...	"
VI.	6058	C. Cheshire ...	191	4 6	St. George's...	"
"	6837	S. Taylor ..	6	4 6	Mile End ...	Royal Navy.
"	6796	C. Harris ..	57	3 0	St. Pancras ...	Still on board.
"	6802	C. Stygall ...	222	3 0	Wandsworth	"
V.	6536	H. Aldrick ...	107	4 6	Islington ...	"
"	5986	J. Tyrrell ...	548	4 6	Lewisham ...	"
"	6644	T. Yetton ...	137	3 0	Bethnal Green	Royal Navy.
"	6720	J. Foster ...	414	3 0	Shoreditch ...	"
"	6812	C. Sutton ...	385	2 0	Mile End ...	Army.
"	6718	A. Smith ...	116	2 0	Bedford ...	Still on board.
"	6803	J. Timms ...	504	2 0	Wandsworth	"
"	6849	J. Spain ...	457	2 0	Maidstone ...	"
IV.	6571	W. Manwaring	253	4 6	Lewisham ...	Absconded.
"	6097	W. White ...	577	4 6	Paddington ...	Still on board.
"	6487	H. Chandler...	434	4 6	Whitechapel	"
"	6652	H. Westwood	550	4 6	Bromley ...	Royal Navy.
"	6481	E. Martin ...	75	3 0	Greenwich ...	"
"	6206	C. Davidge ...	247	3 0	Fulham... ..	Royal Navy.
"	6561	G. Fysh ...	78	3 0	Wandsworth...	Still on board.
"	6229	A. Browning	108	3 0	Woolwich ...	M. Marine.
"	6457	A. Hutchings	535	2 0	Camberwell ...	"
"	6393	J. Adams ...	505	2 0	Lewisham ...	"
"	6510	W. Walters ...	406	2 0	Greenwich ...	Still on board.
"	6399	R. Stead ...	84	2 0	"	M. Marine.
"	6524	L. Darden ...	79	1 0	St. Pancras ...	Still on board.
"	6591	W. Griffiths ...	427	1 0	Lambeth ...	"
"	6604	W. Jackson...	280	1 0	St. Pancras ...	"
"	6518	F. Amos ...	102	1 0	St. Saviour's	"
Passed out of IV. Standard)	6019	T. Bethray ...	425	4 6	Fulham... ..	"
"	5998	H. Creswell ..	597	4 6	St. George's, E.	Army.
"	6285	W. Baldwin...	506	4 6	Kensington ...	M. Marine.
"	6181	S. B'shop ...	395	4 6	"	Royal Navy.
"	6771	A. Martin ...	63	4 6	Isle of Thanet	"
"	6585	I. Rosenbloo...	127	3 0	St. George's, E.	Army.
"	6402	E. Cox ...	516	3 0	Mile End ...	Royal Navy.
"	6449	C. Krøeger ...	230	3 0	Holborn ...	M. Marine.
"	6170	H. Barnett ...	246	3 0	St. Pancras ...	"
"	6469	W. Hare ...	221	3 0	Bedford ...	Royal Navy.
"	6191	C. Ward ...	85	2 0	Wandsworth	M. Marine.
"	6012	H. Armstrong	391	2 0	St. Saviour's	"
"	6044	J. Gray... ..	472	2 0	Stepney ...	Still on board.
"	6025	R. King... ..	444	2 0	Fulham... ..	M. Marine.
"	6411	C. Fitzgerald	339	2 0	Holborn ...	Army.
"	6185	W. Robertson	1	1 0	Wandsworth	M. Marine.
"	5765	A. Robertson	582	1 0	Camberwell ...	Royal Navy.
"	6085	A. Davidson .	176	1 0	Islington ...	Still on board.
"	6300	T. Shill... ..	182	1 0	St. Pancras ...	Royal Navy.
"	6436	H. Ryder ...	360	1 0	Bethnal Green	Army.

STANDARD OR CLASS.	No. on Ship's Books.	NAME.	No. on Watch Bill.	PRIZES.	UNION OR PARISH.	DESTINATION.
				s. d.		
III.	6930	G. Haskell ...	325	4 6	Bethnal Green	Still on board.
"	6272	G. Gooding ...	430	4 6	St. Saviour's	Absconded.
"	6240	G. Hopercroft..	335	3 0	Lambeth ...	M. Marine.
"	6560	T. Green ...	600	3 0	Hackney ...	"
"	6719	H. Averley ...	355	2 0	Shoreditch ...	Royal Navy.
"	5978	A. Hoellin ...	332	2 0	Westminster..	M. Marine.
"	6769	E. Harris ...	11	1 0	Isle of Thanet	Royal Navy.
"	6281	W. Lang ...	50	1 0	Lambeth ...	Army.
II.	6555	A. Ashman ...	467	4 0	Lewisham ...	Royal Navy.
"	6482	R. Bone ...	310	4 0	"	Absconded.
"	6468	H. Johnson ...	387	3 0	Bedford ...	Royal Navy.
"	6706	H. Hill... ..	570	3 0	Lewisham ...	Still on board.
"	5940	G. Trotman...	399	1 9	St. George's...	M. Marine.
"	6141	R. Spinks ...	368	1 9	St. Saviour's	"
"	6850	A. Adrian ...	599	1 0	Hackney ...	Still on board.
"	6919	A. Jefferson...	160	1 0	"	Royal Navy.
I.	6546	S. Tomlinson	143	3 0	Bethnal Green	Still on board.
"	6834	F. Moule ...	520	3 0	Camberwell ...	"
"	6260	H. Mickenham	111	2 0	Dewsbury ...	"
"	6674	J. Gillard ...	216	2 0	St. Marylebone	"

Band. No fewer than 17 band boys entered into the royal navy and 58 into the army this year, making the large number of 75 band boys discharged in one year.

The various classes in music were put through a very stiff examination in May by Mr. Binding, Inspecting Bandmaster of all the Royal Naval Training Ships, who in his report to me states as follows:—

“ 5th May, 1899.

“ I have the honour of submitting the report of my inspection of the boys under musical instruction on board the training ship ‘Exmouth,’ under your command, and in so doing I beg to state that on the 4th and 5th inst. I gave them an exhaustive examination.

“ *First Class Band.*—I heard the first class band play a march, a polka, and a waltz.

“ The result of the performances was as follows:—

Tone	Good.
Intonation	Fair.
Articulation	Good.
Solo playing	Good.
Expression	Fair.
Accompaniments	Fair.
Ensemble	Good.

“ This was a great improvement on the playing I heard in this ship at my examination last year; of course, it was due in a very great measure to the new instruments that have been introduced since that time, for they all have an excellent tone, and are well in tune with each other.

“ This band also played a short piece at sight in a very creditable manner.

“ I next examined all the boys of the same band *individually* in the elements of music, playing major and minor scales on their respective instruments, and playing at sight.

“ Nearly all the boys answered the questions I put to them on the elements of music in a very satisfactory manner. They were also able to play the major and in some instances the minor scales on their instruments correctly, and a good proportion of them were able to read and play a simple melody at sight.

“ I consider this to be very satisfactory, considering the short time they have been under training, for out of the 145 that I examined last year I could only find a very small percentage in the ship at the present time; all the others had been disposed of and fresh boys entered in their places.

“ *Second Class Band.*—In the second class band the boys were just beginning with their instruments. They could nearly all produce a fair tone, and several of them were able to play a scale correctly; they also answered questions on the elements of music in a very creditable manner.

“ *Old Instruments in Second Class Band.*—There are several old and worn-out instruments used in this band that should be discarded and replaced by new ones as soon as convenient, for it is a very great mistake to imagine that an old wind instrument is good enough for a boy to begin with. He is almost sure to contract the habit of producing a bad tone, and playing out of tune. Besides, old instruments will leak somewhere or other, become distressing to play, and injurious to the boys' health.

“ *Third Class Band.*—The third class band, which is purely elementary, were put through a lesson on the blackboard in notation, time, and the formation of the scale; they all gave their answers readily and correctly. I then gave them a little simple musical dictation, and they were nearly all able to write it down correctly on their music slates.

“ *Bugle Band.*—The buglers were able to sound the various calls distinctly, and with a few exceptions quite correct; they also played several bugle marches very steadily and with excellent precision.

“ There are one or two bugles in use that are out of tune; these should not be used when playing marches, they spoil the whole band; they may be used to sound calls separately, but never in combination with the other bugles.

“ *Band Instruments.*—I examined the band instruments very carefully. They were clean and, with a few exceptions, in good repair. All the new instruments recently purchased from Messrs. Hawkes & Son have an excellent tone and are well in tune with each other, but still there are not enough B flat clarionets in the ship. There are only eleven in use in the first class band, and there are nineteen clarionet players under instruction who should be playing all together in this band, for, considering how quickly the boys are passed through this ship, there is certainly not sufficient time for any two boys to use the same instrument alternately; therefore at least eight more B flat clarionets should be provided at once if possible.

“ *Book on the Elements of Music.*—I beg to suggest that it would be an excellent idea to give every band boy a copy of F. Davenport's little book on the 'Elements of Music.' It is used in all the royal naval training ships, and is published under the authority of the committee of the Royal Academy of Music by Messrs. Longmans, Green, & Co., London; price one shilling.

“ The boys were very attentive during my examination, and their behaviour throughout was excellent.

“ (Signed) EDWIN BINDING,

“ *Inspecting Bandmaster, Royal Navy.*”

I beg to recommend the following boys for prizes as noted against their names :—

NAMES, &c.	No. on Ship's Books.	UNION OR PARISH.	DESTINATION.
For best reading and playing at sight—			
1st Prize—597. H. Cresswell	5998	St. George's E.	Army.
2nd ,, 265. A. Monckton	6189	Wandsworth ...	,,
3rd ,, 271. R. Randall	6144	St. Saviour's ...	Royal Navy.
For best general knowledge of music—			
1st Prize—360. G. Ryder	6436	Bethnal Green...	Army.
2nd ,, 472. J. Gray	6044	Stepney ...	Still on board.
3rd ,, 90. G. May	6129	St. Pancras ...	Royal Navy.
For best performance in playing a solo—			
1st Prize— 16. W. Singleton	6598	St. Pancras ...	Army.
2nd ,, 215. R. Wynn	6269	Woolwich ...	,,
3rd ,, 315. R. Henderson	6180	St. Saviour's ...	,,
For quickest progress in 2nd Class Band—			
1st Prize—500. H. Boon	6825	Woolwich ...	,,
2nd ,, 328. W. Ward	6562	Fulham... ..	Still on board.
3rd ,, 434. H. Chandler	6487	Whitechapel ...	,,
4th ,, 355. H. Averley	6719	Shoreditch ...	Royal Navy.
For quickest progress in 3rd Class Band—			
1st Prize—165. J. Dinsmore	6815	Stepney ...	Still on board.
2nd ,, 514. A. Dow	6688	St. Olave's ...	,,
3rd ,, 380. S. Raymond	6693	Lambeth ...	,,
4th ,, 196. S. Goodman	6827	Islington ...	,,
For boys in Bugle Band—			
1st Prize—577. W. White	6097	Paddington ...	,,
2nd ,, 595. S. Smith	6162	Holborn ...	,,
3rd ,, 554. G. Evans	6538	Chelsea... ..	Army.
4th ,, 501. J. Slade	6493	Whitechapel ...	,,
For boys who have taken greatest care of their instruments—			
1st Prize—538. F. Wray	6136	St. Saviour's ...	,,
2nd ,, 315. R. Henderson	6180	,, ...	,,
3rd ,, 597. H. Cresswell	5998	St. George's E.	,,
4th ,, 401. J. Cassidy	6248	Leeds	,,

Tailoring. The following is a list of work done in tailor's shop for 1899 :—

- 627 Serge frocks looped and buttoned.
- 594 Gold chevrons made.
- 30 Masthead vanes made.
- 101 Ship's flags repaired.
- 72 Flags made for boys' use when signalling.
- 12 Boxing gloves repaired.
- 155 Oilskins repaired.
- 155 Sou'westers repaired.
- 17 Pilot jackets repaired.
- 3 Watch coats repaired.
- 24 Shoulder belts made for quartermaster and signal boys.
- 2 Harmonium covers repaired.
- 3 Harmonium covers (new).

- 221 Pairs trousers altered.
- 275 Pairs trousers repaired.
- 300 Serge frocks striped.
- 211 Seamanship stripes made.
- 2,400 Eyelet holes made in towels.
- 60 Straw hats repaired and ribboned.
- 6 Boats' distinguishing flags made.
- 12 Boats' answering pennants made.
- 1 Hatchway cover repaired.
- 1 Church screen altered.
- 5 Boats' cushions repaired.
- 4,050 Soap bags made.
- 60 Haversacks repaired.
- 72 Glass cloths hemmed.
- 30 Stripe shirt collars retaped.

Health. During the year 890 boys were under training on the ship, and the following table shows the complaints that arose among them :—

DISEASES.	No. of Sick admitted into the Infirmary during 1899.	Percentage of Sick.	DEATHS.
General Diseases—			
Febrile (chiefly Catarrh)... ..	90	10·11	...
Constitutional	15	1·68	...
Local—			
Diseases of the Eye	8	·89	...
" " Ear	10	1·12	...
" " Respiratory System	8	·89	...
" " Circulatory " 	2	·22	...
" " Nervous " 	2	·22	1
" " Digestive " 	70	7·86	...
" " Cutaneous " 	24	2·69	...
Accidental Injuries	145	16·29	...
Total	374	41·97	1

Boys' Teeth. The Surgeon-Dentist, in his report to me for the year 1899, says :—

“The turn of another year reminds me of my duty in furnishing you with a report of my work done during 1899. I have visited this ship or infirmary on Tuesday in each week, devoting the first two Tuesdays in each month to inspections and the remaining Tuesdays to operations at the infirmary. In this way every old boy is inspected twice a year and the new ones are seen soon after they come on board; their mouths are put into decent order, and commencing caries is at once detected and arrested.

“On looking over my papers, I find that I have stopped 475 teeth and extracted 61 permanent and 168 temporary teeth.

“One boy has been fitted with two artificial front teeth, and several operations, such as scaling, &c., have been performed.

Stoppings.	Extractions.	
	Permanent.	Temporary.
475	61	168

“I trust that you will be able to confirm my statement, that toothache continues to be conspicuous by its absence.

“ (Signed) EDWARD KEEN, M.R.C.S., L.D.S.,
“Dental Surgeon.”

The following is the chaplain's report :—

Religious Instruction—Chaplain's Report. “In our work for the spiritual and moral welfare of the boys committed to our care, I have nothing unusual to record of the year just passed. There have been, and with such a large number of boys always will be, disappointments and trials ever recurring, and ever new and varied in character, but ever with the same experience that patience with the boy and faith in the power of the means employed, they

may be, and frequently are, surmounted, and one is permitted to see the results in an improved religious tone throughout the entire ship's company.

"The Sunday services have been regularly conducted, and the boys have shown interest and attention in following their part in the service.

"The instruction on Tuesdays and Fridays, with the addition of Thursdays during the time of special preparation for confirmation, has received all the care and attention I could possibly devote to it, and we may feel quite sure the result will be manifested in the after-life of the boys, although it cannot be shown now in a tabulated form.

"On 15th November the Lord Bishop of Colchester visited the ship, accompanied by several members of the Ship Committee, when 204 boys were presented for the sacred rite of confirmation (the numbers in 1898 were 175). The Bishop praised the boys for their reverent behaviour and smart appearance.

"A few days afterwards the whole of the boys confirmed attended All Saints' temporary church, and made their first communion.

"Four times during the year all the boys on board who have been confirmed attended church for a special service and administration of holy communion. On each of these occasions their conduct has been most praiseworthy. Three times during the year there has been a celebration of holy communion on board for the officers.

"The infirmary has been constantly visited, and words of kindness and encouragement spoken to the boys found there from time to time. Nothing of a striking character has occurred, and one can only pray that the result of another year of earnest, devoted, and unobtrusive work will prove of lasting benefit to the boys in all their future life, and that they, with all who labour for their welfare, may gain new courage, new hope, and new strength for each day of future life.

(Signed) FREDERICK HASLOCK,
"Chaplain."

General Remarks. You will be gratified to know that the boys' general conduct during the past year has given me complete satisfaction.

Naturally, prize days are eagerly looked forward to by the boys, and these occasions afford ample opportunities to the members of the Committee for stimulating the unsuccessful lads to fresh efforts, and also for congratulating the prize-winners on their success. Your esteemed chairman, Brig.-Surg. Lt.-Col. A. B. R. Myers, was particularly happy in his encouraging remarks to the lads when distributing to them their school and band prizes on the 19th June, 1899.

Vice-Admiral Sir Compton E. Domville, K.C.B., Admiral Superintendent of Naval Reserves, together with Lady Domville and daughter, very kindly distributed the various watches, medals, and certificates to their fortunate winners on our annual prize day, and, after careful inspection of the various drills performed by the lads, the Admiral (whose opinion, from his unique position, must necessarily possess the highest value to us) said that everything he had seen done, the general appearance and smartness of the lads, and the arrangements of the ship were all eminently praiseworthy, and his one regret was that, taking into consideration the immense good done and being done by the ship (as proved by the results before

him), there should, unfortunately, be only one ship of the "Exmouth" class. There should undoubtedly be several similar ships conducted on the same lines, and not only would the Royal Navy benefit by this arrangement, but the permanent advantage to the lads would be incalculable.

I may here remark that this has been a record year for placing our boys out into various positions, there having been 373 trained lads thus started in life. This number exceeds any previous record, with the exception of one year (1889), when 376 boys were sent out.

It will be seen, by a perusal of list B appended, how well the lads are getting on in the world as a result of their "Exmouth" training.

During the month of November the Bishop of Colchester, attended by the chaplain, held his annual confirmation on board, when 184 boys were admitted to this rite. Two members of the Ship Committee were present—F. C. Mills, Esq., J.P., and W. Frankland, Esq.—who expressed their appreciation of the quiet attention and admirable behaviour of the boys during the service.

I beg to thank most sincerely all those kind friends who, by their subscriptions to the boys' recreation fund, show their appreciation of the old adage which applies most directly to our lads, viz., that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy."

My earnest endeavours to keep our good old "Exmouth" the "model training ship" (which name she earned from an inspecting captain of all naval training ships) have always received the ablest, undivided, and loyal assistance of probably the most energetic and competent staff of officers whom it has been my privilege to command during the many years I have been captain-superintendent of the ship.

I am proud, gentlemen, to feel that in this world-wide work, the results of which speak for themselves, I have retained through such a lengthy period your ever-increasing and hearty co-operation; for this I beg to thank you most sincerely.

(Signed) W. S. BOURCHIER,
Captain-Superintendent.

APPENDIX A.
TRAINING SHIP "EXMOUTH."

SPECIAL GOOD CONDUCT AND ABILITY PRIZE LIST.—Prize Day, 24th June, 1899.

Order of Merit.	NAME.	No. on Ship's Books.	No. on Watch Bill.	UNION OR PARISH.	RANK.	PRIZE TO RECEIVE.	KINDLY GIVEN BY	QUALIFICATIONS.	DESTINATION.
1	J. Trebble ...	6230	383	Lambeth ...	Chief Petty Officer ...	Silver Watch ... (" Brewer Prize ")	Sir E. Galsworthy, J.P.	Selected by the officers for general smartness and ability. He received no less than 29 votes out of 30 officers. He is probably the best boy on board	Royal Navy.
2	H. Armstrong	6012	391	St. Saviour's	Ditto	Silver Watch ... (Most Useful Boy)	R. Strong, Esq., J.P.	Has been a most useful 1st class petty officer, and a very good bugler. He is now a most capable chief petty officer—captain of his division	M. Marine.
3	J. Watson ...	6378	384	Lewisham ...	1st Class Petty Officer	Silver Watch ... (Best Boy in School)	A Member of the Ship Committee	Smart all-round lad, not only in school, but in every duty he has to perform	Still on board.
4	T. Shill ...	6300	182	St. Pancras...	Chief Petty Officer ...	Silver Medal ...	The Managers	Exemplary captain of division; always clean and tidy	Royal Navy.
5	W. Baldwin ...	6861	506	Kensington...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Was a first-rate captain of division, and is now a careful and attentive captain's coxswain	M. Marine.
6	H. Creswell ...	5998	597	St. George's, E.	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Capital chief petty officer, and sergeant of the band	Army.
7	A. Bethray ...	6019	425	Fulham ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	This boy won his rating as chief petty officer in a severe competition in signalling	Still on board.
8	S. Dowsett ...	6390	13	St. Saviour's	1st Class Petty Officer	Ditto	Ditto	Very good 1st class petty officer; sick berth attendant; most kind to sick boys	M. Marine.
9	C. Clarke ...	6262	273	Islington ...	Chief Petty Officer ...	Ditto	Ditto	Most intelligent chief petty officer, and good sub-instructor	Royal Navy.
10	C. Ward ...	6191	85	Wandsworth	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Exemplary chief petty officer; champion swimmer and gymnast; excellent-tempered lad	M. Marine.
11	E. Sewell... ..	6318	36	Willesden ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Very steady and well-behaved captain of division	Ditto.
12	A. Browning ...	6229	108	Woolwich ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Good chief petty officer, and captain of his division	Ditto.
13	E. Stoddart ...	6339	588	Hackney ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	An excellent chief petty officer; has the making of a good seaman	Royal Navy.
14	W. Hare	6460	221	Bedford ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	A smart captain of division; is also a good musician	Ditto.
15	E. Stiff	6497	437	Strood	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	An excellent and very steady chief petty officer	M. Marine.
16	C. Elliott... ..	6066	121	Hackney ...	1st Class Petty Officer	Silver Watch ... (Most Popular Boy)	From Capt. Brown's Legacy	Selected by his shipmates, and deserves it ...	Ditto.

PRIZE LIST—*continued.*

The undermentioned boys are honourably mentioned in the following order of merit for good conduct and ability in various ways.

These would have been awarded prizes next to those who have received medals if there had been sufficient, but the number has been properly limited. These lads had the honour of being presented with a certificate of merit for conduct and ability.

No. on Ship's Books.	NAME.	No. on Watch Bill.	DESTINATION.	No. on Ship's Books.	NAME.	No. on Watch Bill.	DESTINATION.
6178	C. Mason ...	327	M. Marine.	6291	S. Fenner ...	45	M. Marine.
6455	G. Gascoine...	394	Still on board.	6058	C. Cheshire ...	191	Still on board.
6428	R. Bradick ...	592	Royal Navy.	6251	G. Leach ...	140	M. Marine.
6534	S. Stuart ..	291	Still on board.	6490	J. Lammas ...	204	Royal Navy.
6394	T. Holden ..	488	M. Marine.	6095	T. Brailsford	233	Still on board.
6097	W. White ...	577	Still on board.	6252	W. White ...	396	Friends.
6555	A. Ashman ...	467	Royal Navy.	6616	C. Gregory ...	486	Royal Navy.
6556	A. Coyle ...	267	„	6272	G. Gooding ...	430	Absconded.
6054	T. Smith ...	123	M. Marine ...	6248	J. Cassidy ...	401	Army.
6141	R. Spinks ...	368	„	6611	C. Friend ...	575	Still on board.
5940	G. Trotman ...	399	„	6037	F. Hart... ..	532	M. Marine.
6378	J. Watson ...	384	Still on board.	6343	J. Webb ...	515	Army.
6170	H. Barnett ...	246	M. Marine ...	6240	G. Hopcroft...	335	M. Marine.
6504	J. Brodie ...	269	„	6130	A. Burton ..	109	Still on board.
6703	W. Davis ...	392	Still on board.	6620	G. Cull... ..	89	„
6282	W. Davis ...	480	Royal Navy.	6891	T. Armstrong	510	„

APPENDIX B.

PARTICULARS OF OLD BOYS WHO HAVE VISITED THE "EXMOUTH" AND OF OTHERS OF WHOM INFORMATION HAS BEEN OBTAINED DURING THE YEAR.

No.	NAME.	No. on Ship's Books.	UNION OR PARISH.	Date when visited Ship, or heard of or from.	Reported by	REMARKS.
1	C. Moore	4774	Greenwich	1 Jan., 1899	Visited ship	Doing exceedingly well in Royal Navy.
2	C. Clayton	6235	Chelsea	1 "	"	
3	T. Alderney	4343	Mile End	2 "	"	
4	J. Spooner	4605	"	2 "	"	Doing very well in Army.
5	J. Hill	3963	Holborn	2 "	"	
6	H. Greig	4493	City of London	4 "	"	Getting on exceedingly well in Royal Navy as a domestic.
7	E. Sweetzer	5642	Wandsworth	5 "	"	Doing well in Mercantile Marine.
8	W. Fletcher	5478	Richmond	7 "	"	Doing well in Royal Navy.
9	E. Saville	743	Stepney	7 "	"	Doing very well indeed in Royal Navy.
10	H. Parker	5302	Islington	8 "	"	Has left the sea; doing well on shore.
11	W. Treadway	4729	Poplar	9 "	"	Doing well in Royal Navy.
12	T. Berry	4698	Camberwell	10 "	"	Is a signalman in Royal Navy; doing exceedingly well.
13	G. Hall	5131	St. George's	11 "	"	Is in the Army; doing very well.
14	W. Atkins	5810	City of London	13 "	"	Doing very well indeed in Mercantile Marine; intend to stick to their ships.
15	D. Donoghue	5835	St. Marylebone	13 "	"	
16	H. Faber	5707	St. George's	3 Feb., 1899	"	Doing very well indeed in Mercantile Marine; has been five voyages in same ship.
17	T. Barry	3219	St. Marylebone	11 "	"	Invalided out of Army; now working on shore.
18	T. Rich	3849	Lewisham	12 "	"	Working on shore as a grocer's assistant.
19	A. Jefferys	6134	St. Saviour's	14 "	"	Doing well in Mercantile Marine.
20	G. Lodge	3330	Stepney	19 "	"	Is quartermaster in Atlantic Transport Line.
21	T. Willis	1923	Lewisham	20 "	"	Is now a 1st class petty officer and gunnery and torpedo instructor in Royal Navy; has been a petty officer for 11 years, and is well on for pension.
22	H. G. Banks	2960	St. Saviour's	20 "	Seen by Mr. Hall while at Sheerness on duty.	Is now 2nd class petty officer in Royal Navy; going through course of gunnery.
23	H. Self	4080	Camberwell	20 "		Is now leading seaman in Royal Navy; doing very well.
24	J. Giles	2616	"	20 "		Is now gymnastic instructor at Sheerness School of Gunnery.
25	W. Gombrick	5264	Greenwich	20 "		Is A. B. in Royal Navy; working up for gymnastic instructor.
26	H. Fearnley	2989	Mile End	20 "		Is now sick berth steward in Sheerness School of Gunnery; is a 1st class petty officer.

No.	NAME.	No. on Ship's Books.	UNION OR PARISH.	Date when visited Ship, or heard of or from.	Reported by	REMARKS.
27	H. McDonald	5067	St. Olave's ...	28 Feb., 1899 ...	Visited ship ...	Doing very well indeed in R.M.S. "Ophir."
28	W. Watson	5804	Fulham ...	1 Mar., 1899 ...	"	Doing very well indeed in s.s. "Maniton" as O.S.
29	C. Lacey	4628	St. Pancras ...	4 " " " "	"	Doing very well indeed in Royal Navy.
30	E. Whelan	1691	St. Olave's ..	10 " " " "	"	Getting on exceedingly well; is now a bandmaster at Kneller Hall.
31	J. Moore	5140	Fulham... ..	11 " " " "	"	Getting on very well in R.M.S. "Orizaba" as O.S.
32	H. Burns	4821	City of London	12 " " " "	"	Getting on very well in Mercantile Marine; wants to join Royal Navy.
33	W. Sewell	5882	Hendon	18 " " " "	"	Getting on very well in Royal Navy.
34	H. Faber	5707	St. George's ...	18 " " " "	"	Getting on very well in Atlantic Transport Line.
35	A. Ibberson	5720	Kensington ...	18 " " " "	"	
36	F. Aspill	4549	St. Marylebone	19 " " " "	"	
37	E. Davey	4590	Greenwich ...	19 " " " "	"	
38	A. Powell	4887	Paddington ...	19 " " " "	"	
39	W. Brampton	4530	St. George's ..	19 " " " "	"	
40	A. Hindall	5121	Poplar	19 " " " "	"	
41	W. Marshall	3884	Holborn... ..	19 " " " "	"	
42	R. Dutton	5254	Greenwich ...	19 " " " "	"	
43	W. Glen	3977	Camberwell ...	19 " " " "	"	
44	W. Martin	3216	Marylebone ...	19 " " " "	"	
45	F. Woodward	4061	Lewisham ...	19 " " " "	"	
46	H. Baldwin	4810	Kensington ...	19 " " " "	"	
47	H. Fox	2053	Wandsworth ...	19 " " " "	"	
48	A. Phillips	4499	St. Marylebone	19 " " " "	"	
49	W. Hodges	3907	Camberwell ...	19 " " " "	"	
50	J. Davis	2948	St. Olave's ...	19 " " " "	"	
51	G. Olson	5808	Poplar	23 " " " "	Visited ship ...	Has left the ship 10 years now, and is still in the same gentleman's steam yacht as he was discharged to.
52	A. Jefferies	6134	St. Saviour's...	23 " " " "	"	Doing exceedingly well in Mercantile Marine.
53	J. Dolan	5164	Chelsea	31 " " " "	"	Doing exceedingly well in Mercantile Marine as bugler.
54	E. Thompson	6293	Greenwich ...	2 April, 1899...	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy as cook's mate.
55	T. Hill	5639	Lambeth	2 " " " "	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy as domestic.
56	H. Greig	4493	City of London	3 " " " "	"	Doing very well in Army as bugler and drummer.
57	S. Bush	6666	Kingston	3 " " " "	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy as domestics
58	W. Brown	4781	Holborn	3 " " " "	"	Doing very well in Royal Naval Reserve.
59	W. Brown	5439	St. Saviour's ..	3 " " " "	"	Doing well on shore as a chemist's assistant.
60	C. Gittings	2067	St. Olave's ...	3 " " " "	"	Doing well on shore as a footman.

All these men are getting on very well indeed in H.M.S. "Hawk," Mediterranean station.

Seen by old boy, Aspill, who wrote to the gunnery instructor, Mr. Hartwell

No.	NAME.	No. on Ship's Books.	UNION OR PARISH.	Date when visited Ship, or heard of or from.	Reported by	REMARKS.
61	W. Alexander	5883	St. Saviour's	3 April, 1899..	Visited ship ...	Doing well on shore as a printer.
62	H. Parker ...	5302	Islington ...	3 "	"	Working on shore as a painter.
63	E. Markham	5208	Poplar ...	3 "	"	Working on shore as a sawyer.
64	L. Woolford	5417	St. Marylebone	3 "	"	Working on shore as a bricklayer.
65	A. Holmwood	5762	St. Saviour's	3 "	"	Doing very well in troopship "Simla."
66	A. Lane	4629	City of London	3 "	"	Doing very well in R.M.S. "Orizaba."
67	R. Dunn	4491	"	3 "	"	Doing very well in Army.
68	C. Marriott	5122	Lambeth ...	3 "	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy as a bandsman.
69	C. Lilley	4825	Poplar ...	3 "	"	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
70	A. Bird	5223	Paddington ...	9 "	"	Getting on exceedingly well in Royal Navy as domestic.
71	G. Page	5619	Poplar ...	9 "	"	Getting on exceedingly well in Mercantile Marine as bandsmen
72	J. Whichlow	5021	St. Olave's ...	9 "	"	Getting on very well in Mercantile Marine; has been three
73	J. Glasgow	6208	St. Marylebone	16 "	"	voyages in same ship.
74	J. Lopley	5370	Poplar ...	16 "	} Seen by old boy, Bushby	Doing very well indeed in the s.s. "Cayo Largo."
75	W. Steggall...	6355	Lewisham ...	16 "		Doing very well indeed in the s.s. "Ethelbrytha."
76	J. Lynch	6146	Strand ...	16 "	} Letter to Capt.-Supt. "	This man joined "Impregnable" as boy in 1882, and is now a
77	W. Turner	6214	Lewisham ...	16 "		warrant officer in H.M.S. "Defiance."
78	G. Bushby	6197	Woolwich ...	16 "	"	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
79	J. Souhamy	714	St. George's E.	18 "	"	Doing very well in Army.
80	F. Berry	5801	Camberwell ...	23 "	Visited ship ...	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
81	H. Metcalfe...	6216	Fulham...	29 "	"	Doing very well in Army.
82	E. Sweetzer...	5642	Wandsworth	6 May, 1899..	"	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
83	E. Skelton	5927	Medway	12 "	"	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine; wants to join Royal Navy.
84	W. Harris	5486	"	14 "	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy; A.B.
85	T. Elliott	5870	Wandsworth	15 "	"	Getting on very well in Mercantile Marine.
86	E. Pavenport	2018	Islington ...	17 "	"	Is now drum major in Royal Scots Fusiliers.
87	J. Hill	2975	St. Olave's ...	27 "	"	Doing well on shore.
88	W. Wicker	4367	St. Marylebone	28 "	"	Getting on very well indeed in Army.
89	J. Smallbone	5873	Kensington ...	28 "	"	Doing very well indeed in Royal Navy.
90	J. Smith	6495	Islington ...	1 June, 1899	"	Doing very well indeed in steam yacht "Walrus."
91	A. Jeffrys	6134	St. Saviour's	3 "	"	Doing very well indeed in s.s. "Maseba" as bugler.
92	A. Moorcock	4583	Lewisham ...	8 "	"	Getting on very well in Royal Navy.
93	G. Pickering	4923	St. Pancras ...	10 "	"	Is now chief steward in s.s. "Neotsfield."
94	C. Everett	5926	Woolwich ...	13 "	"	Doing exceedingly well in H.M.S. "Diadem" as O.S.
95	A. Cornell	4904	St. Pancras ...	28 "	"	Doing exceedingly well in Mercantile Marine.

No.	NAME.	No. on Ship's Books.	UNION OR PARISH.	Date when visited Ship, or heard of or from.	Reported by	REMARKS.
96	A. Ibberson ...	5720	Kensington ...	1 July, 1899	Visited ship	Doing exceedingly well in s.s. "Marquette" as bugler.
97	S. Hill ...	4806	Poplar ...	"	"	Doing exceedingly well in H.M.S. "Diadem" as O.S.
98	C. Andrews ...	6953	St. Marylebone	"	"	Doing exceedingly well in H.M.S. "Boscawen."
99	E. Cox ...	6402	Mile End	"	"	Doing exceedingly well in H.M.S. "Lion."
100	J. Hartley ...	5907	Hackney ...	"	"	Doing well on shore as a labourer.
101	C. Wyatt ...	2705	Poplar ...	"	"	Doing well on shore as a painter.
102	A. Bennett ..	6412	Holborn	"	"	Doing well in Royal Navy as a bluejacket boy.
103	G. Swan ...	5505	Lewisham ...	"	"	Doing well in Royal Navy as band boys.
104	C. Pheasay ..	5933	St. Pancras ..	"	"	
105	W. Keep ..	6788	Gravesend and Milton	"	"	
106	S. Mansfield...	3420	Islington	"	"	Doing well in Royal Navy as bluejackets.
107	L. Chapple ...	6023	Fulham	7 August, 1899	"	
108	J. Gurd ...	6294	Kingston	"	"	
109	E. Newnham	5877	Lewisham	"	"	Doing very well indeed in Army as band boys.
110	J. Saunders ...	6152	Holborn	"	"	
111	W. Davies ..	6319	Woolwich	"	"	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
112	E. Sweetzer ...	5642	Wandsworth	"	"	
113	E. Ong ...	6326	Fulham	"	"	
114	G. Stanbridge	6381	St. Pancras	"	"	
115	J. Lincoln ...	6106	Hampstead	"	"	Doing very well in Army as band boys.
116	S. Poole	5705	Camberwell ..	"	"	Doing very well on shore as a plumber.
117	W. Sergeant...	4932	St. Pancras ...	"	"	Doing well in Army as a band boy.
118	D. Almond ...	Golia	th boy ...	"	"	Doing exceedingly well in Army as a bandsman.
119	J. Wale ...	4250	St. Saviour's	24 Sept., 1899	"	Doing well on shore.
120	H. Ryder ...	6436	Bethnal Green	"	"	
121	A. Baker ...	6201	Whitechapel	"	"	Doing very well indeed in Cameron Highlanders.
122	J. Cassidy ...	6248	Leeds ...	"	"	
123	J. Tucker ...	5700	Woolwich	"	"	Doing very well indeed in Royal Navy as a domestic.
124	E. Holloway	2468	Lambeth	"	"	Is a 1st class petty officer in H.M.S. "Galatea."
125	G. Godley ...	3724	St. George's...	"	"	Leading seaman in H.M.S. "Galatea."
126	H. Nunns ...	4254	Lambeth	"	"	Is A.B. in H.M.S. "Galatea."
127	F. Berry ...	5801	Camberwell ..	"	"	Doing exceedingly well in Mercantile Marine.
128	J. Tucker ..	5700	Woolwich	3 Oct., 1899	Visited ship	Doing exceedingly well in Royal Navy as a domestic.
129	C. Embrey ...	5654	St. George's E.	"	"	Doing exceedingly well in Royal Navy as a bluejacket.
130	D. Donoghue	5853	St. Marylebone	"	"	Doing very well indeed in H.M.S. "Pembroke" as domestic.

No.	NAME.	No. on Ship's Books.	UNION OR PARISH.	Date when visited Ship, or heard of or from.	Reported by	REMARKS.
131	G. Willshire	5516	Bedford	26 Oct., 1899	} Seen by Mr. Hall while at Chatham on duty	Doing very well indeed in H.M.S. "Pembroke" as domestics.
132	A. Hepworth	6540	Hackney	26 "		
133	E. Humphries	5719	Medway	26 "		
134	S. Bush	6666	Kingston	26 "		
135	C. Dewdney	6055	Poplar	26 "		
136	S. Copeland	6315	Watford	26 "		
137	H. Greig	4498	City of London	26 "		
138	C. Widdows	6379	Lewisham	26 "		
139	F. Partington	6052	St. Pancras	26 "		
140	J. Tucker	5700	Woolwich	26 "		
141	W. Willshire	5340	Bedford	26 "		
142	P. Monk	4568	Lewisham	26 "		
143	F. Turley	5910	Woolwich	26 "		
144	W. Monk	3117	Lewisham	26 "		
145	W. Belsham	4042	Islington	26 "		
146	A. May	1210	Chelsea	26 "	} Visited ship	Sergeant of band, "H.M.S. "Pembroke."
147	A. Boteler	1069	Bethnal Green	26 "		A.B., has got two good-conduct badges, H.M.S. "Pembroke."
148	E. Elliott	3205	Wandsworth	26 "		Qualified signalman, H.M.S. "Pembroke."
149	E. J. Pike	3096	Woolwich	26 "		1st class petty officer, yeoman of signals, H.M.S. "Pembroke."
150	G. Willsher	5516	Bedford	29 "		Doing very well in Royal Navy as domestic.
151	A. Gabriel	6330	St. George's	29 "		Doing very well on shore as a waiter.
152	G. Novell	5773	Islington	5 Nov., 1899		Doing very well on shore as an engineer's assistant
153	F. Clark	4424	St. George's	5 "		Doing very well on shore as a labourer.
154	J. Green	5989	St. Marylebone	8 "		Doing exceedingly well in Army as band boy.
155	E. Baggett	5953	Woolwich	12 "		Doing well on shore; trying to join Royal Navy
156	A. Bonnor	5596	Lambeth	14 "		Doing very well in H.M.S. "Defiance" as domestic.
157	C. Digby	6247	Wandsworth	15 "		Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
158	D. Grammond	6592	Greenwich	17 "		Doing very well in Mercantile Marine as bugler.
159	F. Finch	6406	Hackney	17 "		Doing very well in Mercantile Marine; has been two years in one ship.
160	A. Ibberson	5720	Kensington	18 "		Doing very well in 1st Dragoon Guards as a band boy.
161	R. Roe	5845	St. Saviour's	21 "	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.	
162	W. Page	4830	Poplar	25 "	} Seen by Mr. Hall while at Devonport on duty	Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
163	A. Hoellen	5978	Westminster	29 "		Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.
164	J. Moore	5140	Fulham	2 Dec., 1899		Doing very well in Mercantile Marine.

No.	NAME.	No. on Ship's Books.	UNION OR PARISH.	Date when visited Ship, or heard of or from.	Reported by	REMARKS.
165	S. Poole	5705	Camberwell ...	3 Dec., 1899 ...	Visited ship	Doing very well on shore as plumber.
166	C. Kröger	6449	Holborn ...	4 " "	"	Doing very well indeed in s. s. "Joshua Nicholson."
167	G. Stanbridge	6381	St. Pancras ...	12 " "	"	Doing well in the Army as bandboys.
168	A. Gregory	5805	St. George's E.	12 " "	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy as a band boy.
169	W. Singleton	6598	St. Pancras ...	13 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bluejacket.
170	M. Bird	5898	St. George's...	14 " "	"	Doing exceedingly well in Mercantile Marine.
171	J. Walters	6299	Greenwich ...	14 " "	"	Doing well in Royal Navy as bluejackets.
172	D. Olson	6569	Poplar ...	14 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bluejackets.
173	G. Olson	5808	" "	14 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bandboys.
174	A. Corder	6080	Hackney ...	14 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bluejacket.
175	H. Jones	6508	Lambeth ...	14 " "	"	Gymnastic instructor, H.M.S. "Northampton"; doing very well indeed.
176	R. Lawler	5953	Woolwich ...	15 " "	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy as bluejackets.
177	C. Prosser	6419	Whitechapel	19 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bandboys.
178	D. Lewis	5822	Holborn ...	20 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bluejacket.
179	E. Newcombe	5582	Islington ...	20 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bluejacket.
180	J. Cain...	5730	St. Marylebone	20 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bluejackets.
181	J. Roberts	4222	Lewisham ...	21 " "	"	Doing well in the Royal Navy as bluejackets.
182	A. Somerville	5863	Hampstead ...	24 " "	"	Doing very well in Royal Navy as bluejacket.
183	A. Stiff...	5795	Strood ...	24 " "	"	Doing very well indeed on shore.
184	J. Foster	6720	Shoreditch ...	26 " "	"	Doing very well indeed in Royal Navy as band boy.
185	W. Lang	6281	Lambeth ...	26 " "	"	Doing very well indeed in Army as band boys.
186	J. Lincoln ...	6106	Hampstead ...	29 " "	"	Doing very well on shore.
187	H. Estworthy	5088	City of London	29 " "	"	Doing very well on shore.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ASYLUMS COMMITTEE.

May, 1900.

Introduction.

In submitting this, our first annual report, we deem it fitting to briefly mention the practice which, prior to our creation in the month of June, 1899, obtained in regard to the management of the imbecile establishments under the control of the Managers of the Metropolitan Asylum District, from the time of the opening of the asylum at Caterham, Surrey, and the asylum at Leavesden, near Watford, Hertfordshire, in the year 1870, and of the Darenth Asylum and Schools in 1880 and 1878 respectively.

The asylums had been managed by separate committees, consisting of 12 Managers and the chairman and vice-chairman of the Board, who were *ex-officio* members of the committee. Whilst the duties and powers of those committees were somewhat limited, they, nevertheless, had considerable authority and responsibility. Inasmuch, however, as the committees were entirely independent of each other, it is not surprising that anomalies and inconsistencies in the management of the institutions grew up gradually.

In a letter to the Managers, dated 13th May, 1898, the Local Government Board suggested "that, with a view of increasing the powers of supervision and strengthening generally the administrative and financial control of the Managers over the institutions under their charge, of ensuring greater uniformity of administration, and at the same time economising the time of the members, it would be desirable that two central committees should be formed, one in connection with imbecile asylums and one in connection with fever and smallpox hospitals, in addition to the Children's Committee already appointed," and the Board invited the Managers to state their observations upon the proposal. The outcome of the matter was that, on the 3rd June, 1899, the Managers, acting upon the authority of an Order of the Local Government Board, dated 4th February, 1899, appointed an Asylums Committee and a Hospitals Committee instead of separate committees for each asylum and hospital. (A copy of that Order is appended, marked I.)

Prior to the appointment of the central committees, the Managers had adopted a scheme with regard to the *constitution* of such committees. The scheme directed that the Asylums Committee should consist of not more than 26 members.*

The scheme, moreover, directed the Asylums Committee, *inter alia*, to appoint sub-committees for the institutions and such other sub-committees as they might think fit, and it also outlined the general scope of the institution sub-committees' duties and powers.

Having briefly indicated the origin of the Asylums Committee, it may be interesting and perhaps instructive to persons into whose hands this report (the first of its kind) may come if a brief history were given of the Board's work in regard to the imbecile asylums, and with this object it is considered that the

* By standing order, the chairman and vice-chairman of the Board, and the chairman of the General Purposes Committee are *ex-officio* members of the committee.

following extract from the pamphlet recently prepared, under the direction of the Statistical Committee, for distribution at the Paris Exhibition of 1900, will suffice :—

ASYLUMS AND SCHOOLS FOR IMBECILES.

Arrangements for care and treatment of imbeciles before Board's asylums were opened.

Until the Managers' asylums were opened there were no institutions except the workhouses to which idiots or imbeciles of the pauper class in London could be admitted. Lunatics could be removed to the county lunatic asylums, but imbeciles were retained in the workhouses. In some workhouses they were warded separately from the other inmates, whilst in others they were placed in the general wards. The separate wards were described as "gloomy and dull." To a great extent the patients were, in common with the sick inmates, nursed and cared for by other paupers. Moreover, the evils of the system were accentuated in the case of imbeciles, as the mental condition of the poor creatures rendered them incapable of making any effort or appeal for their own protection.

Asylums built.

It was for this class of poor persons that the Managers were called upon to provide accommodation. In the first instance they decided to erect two asylums, capable of accommodating 2,000 patients each, one at Caterham, in the county of Surrey, and the other at Leavesden, in the county of Hertfordshire, both being about 20 miles from London, the former in a southerly and the latter in a north-westerly direction. These asylums were opened for the reception of patients on the 29th September and 9th October, 1870, respectively.

Separation of children from adult imbeciles.

For the first few years children as well as adults were admitted. Melancholy as it might be to reflect that the vast majority of the adult patients would remain in those institutions to the end of their days, the case of the children seemed even sadder, and saddest of all for those among them in whom the medical officers of the institutions detected some signs of intelligence, which, under special training and a more suitable environment, might be developed sufficiently to enable them ultimately to take some interest in useful occupations and partly earn their own livelihood, or at least to induce in them habits of cleanliness and order, and prevent them from learning to imitate the habits and language of the, in many cases, depraved adult imbeciles. It was a consideration of these possibilities that first decided the Managers to attempt to separate the children from the adults and educate them in the asylums, and ultimately to remove all children under 16 years of age from those institutions and to provide accommodation for them in an entirely separate establishment.

In the first instance (years 1873 to 1876) the children were accommodated in the buildings erected at Hampstead to meet the epidemic of relapsing fever in 1870 and the subsequent severe smallpox epidemic. A schoolmistress and assistants were appointed, and the work of educating idiot children commenced. This emergency hospital, however, in addition to not being altogether suitable for the purposes in view, could not long be diverted from its proper use, and the Managers proceeded to acquire a site and erect a special school for imbecile or idiot children. In the meantime, as a temporary measure, they hired a vacant orphan asylum at Clapton, in the north-east of London, and transferred the children from Hampstead thereto.

The site secured for the new school was at Darenth, near Dartford, Kent, about 20 miles to the south-east of London. In due course the school was erected, opened on the 18th November, 1878, and occupied by the children removed from the hired establishment at Clapton. The accommodation provided was for 560 children. In

addition to the schoolrooms, workshops had been erected for the industrial training of the most improvable patients.

After the first few years' experience, it was found that few patients improved so much as to be, in the judgment of the medical superintendent, fit to be discharged as cured. But there were many who had considerably improved, and were evidently capable of further improvement, if some means could be devised for continuing their education and industrial training after they had attained the age of 16 years. At this age they were to be transferred from the schools to one of the adult asylums, and it was obvious that, were this plan adopted, the benefits they had derived would to a great extent be lost.

With the view of ensuring as far as practicable the progressive training of the elder children, the Managers erected an asylum for 1,052 patients in a position adjacent to the schools. This was opened in May, 1880. In brief, the scheme was to receive into the schools children from 5 to 16 years of age; to subject them to a special course of education and manual training; to retain the improvable children under instruction in part of the new asylum after they had attained 16 years of age; and to transfer the unimproved children to the remaining part of the asylum. The scheme was, however, destined to failure almost without any trial whatever. The 4,000 beds in the adult asylums at Caterham and Leavesden having been filled more rapidly than was anticipated, the Managers were unfortunately induced to admit ordinary imbecile patients into the Darenth Asylum. This has proved to have been a mistake. The original intention of the Board that the asylum should receive only the overflow from the schools when the children reached the age of 16 was lost sight of; the adult asylum became filled with ordinary imbeciles, and consequently the schools became crowded with helpless and unimprovable cases.

An effort to remedy this state of things was made in 1888 by the erection of a set of 10 pavilions to accommodate 440 helpless cases. The pavilions were of one floor only, so as to prevent the necessity of staircases for this particular class of case. A further effort was made in 1892, when the Managers, finding that their policy was in danger of entirely breaking down, and that the work of the schools was again being interrupted owing to want of room for patients over 16 years (and the helpless cases in the asylum and pavilions), issued an order that the admissions to the asylum from outside should be stopped, and that only cases from the schools should be transferred thereto.

Classification of children.

This action, however, did not remedy the original mistake, mainly owing to the number of epileptic and helpless cases that the different boards of guardians continued to send into the schools. The Managers eventually decided to increase their accommodation for adult imbeciles by the erection of another asylum, and they carefully considered the whole question of the classification of the inmates of the existing asylums and the schools. As the result of these deliberations they have recently decided to establish, on another site, a training school, to which the few hundred improvable children at Darenth can be removed, and in connection with it an industrial colony, where the training given in the schools can be continued and utilised in proper workshops, and where much of the works and repairs required at other institutions of the Board—such as basket and mat making, carpentering, tailoring, upholstering, and shoemaking, and possibly printing and weaving—may be carried on. The Managers lay special stress upon the last phase of the scheme, as they are of opinion that, by concentrating the industrial energies of the patients in one centre, where the great bulk of this class of asylum work can be carried on, under proper supervision, by the more intelligent class of the imbecile patients, the Managers may make a portion of their patients partially self-supporting.

To assist in the successful carrying out of this scheme, it was essential that the Managers should be exempted from the necessity of obtaining a magistrate's certificate for the detention in the schools of idiot or imbecile children at least until they attain the age of 21 years, the certification at an earlier age having been found to lead to the cessation of training just when it was beginning to produce the most successful results.

Asylum for infirmary cases.

For the new asylum for adult imbeciles the Managers have secured a site at Tooting Bec, which is within the metropolitan district. Their main object in selecting this locality was that the patients might be nearer their friends. It had for many years been felt a hardship that patients whose mental weakness was mainly due to old age should be taken to such a distance from London as to practically deprive them of the pleasure of being visited by their friends. Another object was to lessen the number of infirmary cases at the country asylums. These institutions possess only limited infirmary accommodation, as it was anticipated when they were built that a good deal of the domestic work of the institutions would be performed by the able-bodied and more intelligent inmates, but year by year the proportion of working patients has been decreasing.

The new asylum will therefore enable the Managers to further systematise the classification of patients. It will be very convenient for the first reception of all imbeciles, whence, after a short detention for observation, they may at once be transferred to the particular asylum best suited for each case. The last remark specially applies to the adult imbeciles. There is, however, ample space on the site for erecting central receiving houses for imbecile children, and these the Managers have decided to provide. The children received into them will be under the observation of the medical superintendent, who will decide to which institution they shall be sent, that is to say, whether to the new training school, or to the Darenth institution, where only the unimprovable and helpless cases will be received.

Patients. The following is a summary of the admissions, deaths, and discharges during the year 1899:—

	ADMISSIONS.			DEATHS.			DISCHARGES.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Caterham	76	68	144	58	53	111	16	13	29
Leavesden	196	146	342	121	129	250	63	28	91
Darenth	38	25	63	35	35	70	19	19	38
Total	310	239	549	214	217	431	98	60	158

On the 31st December there were under treatment at—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Caterham	931	1,074	2,005
Leavesden	897	1,088	1,985
Darenth	1,062	899	1,961*
Total	2,890	3,061	5,951

* Includes 569 children under 16 years of age at schools and pavilions

Most of the patients sent to the Caterham and Leavesden Asylums were of the helpless class, whose feeble bodily health necessitated their being regarded as needing infirmary treatment. These institutions, which were designed for the treatment of able-bodied imbeciles, are rapidly becoming huge infirmaries, rendering the work of administering them more onerous than ever.

Of the 158 patients who were discharged, 20 adults had recovered, and 34 adults and 5 children had improved.

More detailed information as to the statistics relating to the asylums will be found in the reports of the medical superintendents in volume II.

Expenditure. The total expenditure in respect of the asylums during the year ended at Michaelmas, 1899, was £151,994 6s. 11d.

The daily cost per head in respect of maintenance and clothing was $6\frac{1}{3}\frac{7}{2}$ d., whilst the daily cost in respect of all charges was $1s. 4\frac{2}{3}\frac{7}{2}$ d.

Matters dealt with. Numerous important matters have engaged our attention during the seven months which have elapsed from the time of our appointment to the end of the year 1899. They include the following:—

General.

- Alterations and improvements to laundries.
- Improvement in condition of airing courts.
- Sanitary improvements.
- Milk sterilisation.
- Christmas extras.
- Consumption of coal and coke.
- Records of expenditure on labour and materials.
- Additional assistant medical officers.
- Artisans' wages scale.

Leavesden Asylum.

- Outbreak of enteritis.
- Disposal of sewage.
- Water sterilisation.
- Provision of isolation block.
- Provision of mortuary and laboratory.
- Conversion of block 4 into a male infirmary block.
- Conversion of convalescent home into a residence for certain officers.
- Provision of walks round estate.

Darenth Asylum.

- Painting, distempering, and outside cementing work.
- Reconstruction of gas retorts.
- Provision of brick ovens.
- Enlargement of asylum laundry and other works necessary to complete consolidation of administration.

**Board's
policy
regarding
"improv-
able"
children.**

The perusal of the extract from the pamphlet previously mentioned will doubtless have led the readers of this report to desire additional information regarding the decision of the Managers to establish a training school to which the "improvable children" now at Darenth could be removed, and in connection therewith an industrial colony where such training can be continued and utilised in proper workshops. This important question has been under the consideration of one or other of the committees of the Board since the year 1895, and various suggestions have from time to time been submitted, but it was not until February, 1899, that a definite policy was decided upon. That policy is indicated in a series of resolutions which a special sub-committee of the General Purposes Committee submitted, and which the Board, on the 25th February, 1899, generally approved and adopted. These resolutions were as follow:—

- (a) That in future the imbecile children under the care of the Managers shall be divided into two groups, which groups shall be housed on separate sites under different medical superintendents.
- (b) That one group (the "improvable children"), which shall be placed in a training school, shall comprise all those who may be reasonably expected to derive such benefit from training that they may become capable of being usefully occupied under supervision in domestic or industrial employment, and may thus become partially self-supporting.
- (c) That, with a view to preliminary classification, as well as for quarantine purposes, all children on admission shall be received at a central receiving house.
- (d) That for cases in which it is not possible to arrive at any immediate decision there shall be probationary wards where children could be kept under more prolonged observation.
- (e) That these probationary wards, as distinct from the proposed receiving house, be attached to the training school.
- (f) That provision be made for the continued employment of those who successfully pass through childhood and youth in the training school and of some of those who having been admitted as adults into the Managers' asylums are capable of industrial employment, and that this industrial scheme be in connection with the training school and under the same medical superintendent.
- (g) That as separation by blocks and wards of patients of different ages and sexes and degrees of infirmity is most important, workers, even though employed in domestic work by day in helpless wards, should not as a rule be warded with helpless patients.
- (h) That, subject to these limitations, no objections be offered to a mixture of ages and sexes in a single institution, or to the retention of a reasonable proportion of working patients in an institution for helpless cases, provided always that all patients who are capable of better work be sent where they will have the opportunity of doing it, and that the two broad classes, viz., those who are more or less self-supporting and those who are quite incapable of self-support in any degree, are not otherwise placed together in the same institution than as permitted by the above-mentioned retention of a reasonable number of workers.
- (i) That the improvable children be removed from Darenth as soon as the necessary arrangements can be made.

Following the adoption of these resolutions, the Local Government Board assented to the proposal of the Managers to abolish the post of medical superintendent of the Darenth Schools and to appoint Dr. Taylor, the medical superintendent of the adult asylum, to the office of medical superintendent of the two establishments. This assent was given on the understanding that the general principles of the scheme formulated in the report of the General Purposes Committee would be put into operation at the first practicable opportunity.

**Receiving
houses for
imbecile
children at
Tooting
Bec Asylum.**

Following on the settlement of the policy above mentioned, the Board, on the 6th May, 1899, referred to the central Asylums Committee, when it should have been duly constituted, the question of the nature and extent of the accommodation to be provided for imbecile children in the proposed receiving houses at Tooting Bec Asylum, and on the 2nd December we reported on the reference, when our views were generally approved, and the Works Committee were instructed to cause plans to be prepared in accordance therewith.

**Temporary
accom-
modation
for
children.**

In October we submitted to the Board a recommendation that steps be taken to acquire forthwith for the temporary accommodation of the improvable children at Darenth, the District School at Witham, at present under the control of the Managers of the South Metropolitan School District.

That recommendation was referred to the General Purposes Committee for consideration and report, together with a letter from the South Metropolitan School District Board with reference to the recent decision of the Managers to purchase the school district's property* at Sutton and Witham, and asking whether the Managers would be prepared to take over at once the district schools at Witham.

On the 4th November, the Managers, "having regard to the serious and urgent want of accommodation for imbecile children," approved of the use of Witham Schools for the "temporary accommodation" of such children, and empowered the General Purposes Committee to negotiate for its immediate acquisition.

At that meeting, Dr. Downes, Local Government Board inspector, asked whether the possibility of utilising the union schools at Wandsworth, under the control of the Westminster Board of Guardians, and which were said to be empty, had been considered by the committee. The answer being in the negative, it was subsequently referred to the General Purposes Committee to further consider and report on the question of the use to be made of Witham School when acquired, in the light of the question put by Dr. Downes.†

* The property here mentioned consists of (i.) a school for girls in the Banstead Road, Sutton, which has been practically hypothecated to the Children's Committee for children suffering from ringworm; (ii.) schools for boys and infants in the Brighton Road, Sutton, which it is contemplated shall be used for the accommodation of imbeciles; and (iii.) a small school at Witham, in Essex, which the Managers on the 5th May, 1900, agreed, subject to the sanction of the Local Government Board, to sell to the Essex Lunatic Asylum Committee for £14,000.

† The outcome of this reference was that, on the 24th February, 1900, the Managers decided, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board, and to the conditions specified in a report of a sub-committee, to rent for the temporary accommodation of imbecile children the premises known as Rochester House, Little Ealing, for a period of eight years (determinable at the expiration of the first three or five years), from the 24th June, 1900, at a rental of £225 per annum, and they also referred it to the Asylums Committee to determine, immediately the sanction of the Local Government Board should be received to the proposals, what alterations and repairs were expedient to render the buildings suitable for the accommodation of imbecile children, and at the same time they directed the Works Committee to carry out the works so determined.

The Local Government Board having assented to the acquisition of this property for the purpose indicated, it has been decided to accommodate there 150 educable (*i.e.*, improvable) children (90 males and 60 females) so soon as the requisite alterations, &c., the plans of which are now before the Local Government Board, have been made.

Committee's work. It was anticipated that the work of the Asylums Committee would be comparatively light, but it has not proved to be so. During the few months of our existence we have had a very large number of important matters to deal with, and there is no indication that our work will diminish. On the contrary, it must be expected to increase considerably, especially in view of the acquisition of—

Rochester House,
 Tooting Bec Asylum (now in course of erection),
 The District Schools at Sutton (see footnote on page 85).

Appendices. We append hereto (i.) a statement showing the area and appropriation of land belonging to the asylums (Appendix A), (ii.) the medical superintendents' annual reports for 1899 (Appendices B, C, and D*), (iii.) the reports of the visiting lunacy commissioners as received from the Local Government Board (Appendices E, F, and G), (iv.) a series of operative resolutions of the nature of standing orders which have been passed by us during the seven months ended 31st December, 1899 (Appendix H), and (v.) a copy of the Local Government Board's Order, dated 4th February, 1899, previously mentioned (Appendix I).

Sub-Committees. We feel that a report of this kind would be incomplete did it not contain some reference to the work of the institution sub-committees, which have taken the place of the former committees of management. It has often been said and admitted that the committees are the backbone of the Board; that being so, it follows that the sub-committees are the backbone of the parent committees. The asylum sub-committees have given a large amount of time and attention to the numerous matters of detail which have come before them on the occasion of their fortnightly meetings at the institutions and also on the occasion of interim visits. As each of these meetings and visits as a rule occupy the greater part of a day, it will readily be seen that a very large demand is made upon the time of the Managers who serve on such sub-committees, and it seems only right that some acknowledgment should be made of the useful work which they have carried on satisfactorily.

Signed, on behalf of the Asylums Committee,

(Signed) J. R. HILL,
Chairman.

* For Appendices B, C, and D, see Vol. II., pp. 113, 119, and 122 respectively.

APPENDIX A.

Area and Appropriation of Land belonging to the Asylums.

	LEAVESDEN.			CATERHAM.			DARENTH.			
	Acres.	Roods.	Poles.	Acres.	Roods.	Poles.	Acres.	Roods.	Poles.	
1. Asylum buildings (<i>i.e.</i> , administrative buildings and patients' blocks)	6	1	23	8	0	0				
2. Airing courts	8	1	39	6	0	0	45	1	21½*	
3. Ornamental grounds	3	0	18	5	1	31				
4. Recreation grounds	4	3	3	9	0	0	15	3	2	
5. Gasworks	0	3	38	0	2	33	1	1	11½	
6. Farm buildings	1	2	0	0	2	28	3	3	39	
7. Pasture land	25	0	0	80	0	20	30	1	21	
8. Arable land	14	0	0	30	0	0	86	2	37½	
9. Kitchen garden	7	0	0	6	2	0	33	1	36½	
10. Orchard	2	2	5	1	2	0	5	0	19½†	
11. Cemetery	1	1	34	0	3	21	1	0	28	
12. Other parts, viz. :—										
(i.) Laundry drying ground	0	2	0	0	2	19	Cottages and Gardens.	3	30	
(ii.) Chaplain's house and "Firs"	Cool Sheds, etc.	1	0	2	0	0	Wood	3	2	28½
(iii.) Roads, paths, &c.	8	0	0	3	0	0	.....		
Total	84	0	0	154	1	32	227	3	35 †	

APPENDIX E.

REPORT BY TWO OF THE COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY WHO VISITED THE CATERHAM ASYLUM ON THE 29TH MAY, 1899.

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY,

66, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.,

19th June, 1899.

We visited the Metropolitan district asylum at Caterham on the 29th May but owing to circumstances incidental to the change of offices, we have been compelled to delay the preparation of our report. Since the 3rd May, 1898, when our colleagues made their visit, there have been the following changes among the patients:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted	78	87	165
Discharged or removed	14	14	28
Died	65	66	131

* Includes roads.

† 3½ acres of orchard utilised as kitchen garden.

‡ About 63½ acres of this total belongs to Gore Farm Hospital, but is farmed from the asylum.

The asylum on the day of our visit contained 1,993 patients, of whom 927 were males and 1,066 females. As the estimated accommodation provided allows for the reception of 935 men and 1,075 women, the limit has not been reached to the extent of eight men and nine women.

The percentage of recoveries on admissions in 1898, exclusive of transfers re-certifications, was five, whilst the proportion of deaths to the average number resident in the asylum in that year was 7·5 per cent. The causes of death (93 or 71 per cent. of which were verified by *post-mortem* examination) include 34 from general debility and senile decay; 59 from cerebral and spinal disease, inclusive of 14 from epilepsy and 25 from the exhaustion of dementia; 28 from pulmonary and cardiac affections, 11 of these being cases of phthisis; six from gastro-intestinal diseases; two from Bright's disease; and two from accidental injuries. Inquests were held on the last mentioned—one being the case of an old man, 82 years of age, who fractured the right femur by accidentally falling from his chair, and who suffered also from bronchitis; the other, a female patient who died from the effects of burns caused by her clothes becoming accidentally ignited whilst she was assisting in the domestic work of the charge nurse's room. The verdict of the jury exonerated the nurse from all blame. In four cases (two males and two females) bedsores existed at the time of death. The number of epileptics in the asylum at the date of our visit was 423, or 21 per cent. of the whole number, of whom 187 were men and 236 women, all of whom sleep under constant supervision. There were 10 patients suffering from general paralysis—seven men and three women. The number of patients reported to have wetted their beds or bedding during the night preceding our visit was 232.

The attendance at the chapel service remains about the same as on the last occasion. Thus on the Sunday before our visit, 272 attended the morning and 323 the evening service—an average attendance of 15 per cent. of the whole number. No doubt this low figure is accounted for by the hopeless mental condition of so many of the inmates, who show no desire to avail themselves of the privilege, in spite of the encouragement that is given to them. There were also 85 who attended other religious services. The average number who are present at the associated entertainments is 519, or 26 per cent. About 250 on an average walk out weekly or oftener beyond the asylum grounds, and 78 walk daily beyond the airing courts. There are 750 patients or nearly 38 per cent. usefully employed, more than one half of the number being engaged in the various blocks as helpers. In the laundry there are 18 men and 18 women employed, and we cannot again avoid remarking upon the risks incidental to the mixed employment of the sexes in the same department. In the kitchen there are 12 men and two women engaged, 51 men work on the garden and farm, 21 in the upholsterers' shop, 16 in the tailors' and shoemakers' shops, and 11 in the bakehouse and stores, whilst nine men are employed in the painters' shops, engine house, &c.

There has not been any occasion for resort to mechanical restraint, but three men and seven women have been secluded on 16 occasions for a total of 59 hours. The last entry in the journal gives the names of 100 men and 154 women as being under medical treatment. In addition to the two fatal cases above mentioned there have, since the last visit, been six instances of serious but non-fatal injury—two in men and four in women. They were all of the nature of fracture of bones

of the limbs due to falls, one occurring in an epileptic fit, another from being pushed down by a fellow-patient, the rest being all of accidental character. The asylum has been quite free from any cases of epidemic of zymotic disease either among the patients or the staff.

The proportion of attendants to patients remains the same as on the occasion of the last visit, in one to 19 on each side of the house, there being 48 male and 56 female attendants employed on day duty. For night duty there are eight male and ten female attendants. Of the total number of attendants of both sexes (128) 26 or 20 per cent. have under 1 year's service, whilst 37 or nearly 29 per cent. have been in the service of the asylum over five years. Three changes have taken place among the charge attendants during the past year, one male and two females; and four attendants, three male and one female, have been discharged for misconduct. We are informed that the head attendants are always present at the general bathing of the patients, and on the female side the matron and assistant matron make frequent visits. We were favourably impressed by the evidence of the care bestowed upon the patients, who were for the most part contented and quiet, few making any complaints, and these limited to that of undue detention. Their clothing was neat, but 49 were wearing strong dresses. There were 15 men and 18 women confined to bed at the time of our visit, but we observed in addition a large number of infirm and helpless patients in some of the wards for whom several wicker arm chairs have been recently provided.

The wards and dormitories were clean and bright, the bedding in good order. In respect to a criticism passed by our colleagues on the occasion of their visit last year it may be mentioned that food cupboards have been provided for the male and female "A" infirmaries, whilst the brooms and window poles are now locked up in the housemaid's sink closet instead of as heretofore being left about in the lavatories. The staining and dry rubbing of floors which is now so general in all institutions of this class, and is moreover of much value from the point of view of cleanliness and health as well as of labour, has been carried out in one of the wards of the detached female block. It would be satisfactory to see the plan much more widely extended, but it must be admitted that until the flooring has been relaid in some of the older wards it would be hardly practicable to make the change. Some of the airing courts have during the past year been renovated, and the tar-paving has been extended round the paths attached to the epileptic blocks in both divisions. There still remains, however, something to be done to other courts, especially on the female side, whilst on the male side the lack of shelters is a conspicuous defect. The detached block, now occupied by 20 female patients and two nurses affords excellent accommodation, but we think provision should be made for the ready escape of the inmates in case of fire, and would suggest that this might easily be done by making one of the windows at each end of the building to open.

We inspected the new isolation hospital, which is, in our opinion, admirably adapted for its purpose, and we trust that on no consideration will it ever be appropriated to other uses than that for which it is intended, although the freedom of the asylum from cases of infectious disease has not led to its being utilised since its completion. A useful and valuable addition to this building is the provision of a single room for the lodgment of any suspicious or doubtful cases.

Since our colleagues' visit a partition has been constructed between the male and female divisions of this hospital, the wards of which afford ample cubic space for the number of beds (12 in all) which they contain. There is also an excellent balcony for convalescent patients, and the sanitary arrangements are quite in accordance with modern principles. We visited all the administrative departments, and saw the patients at dinner in the wards. The meal consisted of boiled beef and potatoes, the latter being of poor quality, for which we were informed the season of the year sufficed to account. This article of diet is one so much appreciated by the patients that the necessity for the most scrupulous attention to its quality cannot be too strongly insisted upon. Indeed, some of the patients complained to us about it.

The laundry is hardly adequate to the amount of work that is now done there. The quantity of foul linen requiring to be dealt with has increased, owing to the deterioration in the type of the patients admitted, which also accounts for the comparatively small number of them who are available for laundry work. Amongst needful improvements, that of the provision of another mangle seems the most imperative. Open ironwork gates, with catch locks, have been provided for the external doors of the laundry, and are kept fastened when the doors are left open for ventilation purposes.

The new residential block for the female nursing staff is now completed and about to be occupied, some of the rooms being already tenanted by the nurses on night duty. It contains 30 separate rooms, a mess room and a sitting room, and in respect to accommodation and furniture constitutes a most desirable addition to the establishment which ought to be thoroughly appreciated by the staff. In addition to the works already mentioned, much has been done in the way of painting and renovating wards, dormitories, and staircases, those where the work has been completed presenting a bright and cheerful appearance. An additional exit to the recreation hall is to be made at the stage end.

We learn that, besides the medical officers and the chaplain, keys admitting to both sides of the house are furnished to the clerk of works, the steward, and fireman. This is not in accordance with the recommendation of our Board, who have learnt by experience how essential it is that the number of keys so bestowed should be reduced to the lowest number consistent with safety.

Dr. Elliot accompanied us on our visit, and we were joined on our rounds through the male and female wards by the respective assistant medical officers, Dr. Campbell and Dr. Fleck. The case books are well kept, and illustrated by photographs. Considering the large number of patients and the scope for clinical and pathological observation which the asylum affords, we believe that there would be much advantage in increasing the medical staff by the appointment of a third assistant medical officer.

(Signed)

SIDNEY COUPLAND,
W. E. FRERE,

Commissioners in Lunacy.

APPENDIX F.

REPORT BY TWO OF THE COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY WHO
VISITED THE LEAVESDEN ASYLUM ON THE 6TH JUNE, 1899.

LUNACY COMMISSION,

66, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.,

July 13th, 1899.

On the 6th of June we paid our annual visit of inspection to the Leavesden Asylum, of the condition and management of which we are able to report generally in favourable terms. Since the 29th of April, 1898, the date of the previous visit by members of our board, the following changes among the patients had occurred:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Admitted	177	173	350
Discharged or removed	81	40	121
Of whom had recovered	19	8	27
Died	120	139	259

These changes had left on the books the names of 866 male and 1,081 female patients—a total of 1,947—all of whom we saw. The estimated accommodation in the asylum is for 2,000. There were therefore vacancies for 53 patients. The results of treatment during the year were shown in 10½ per cent. of recoveries and 9½ per cent. of deaths—the recoveries being necessarily limited by the extremely unfavourable character of the cases for which this institution provides.

The patients generally were quiet and well-behaved, and in a satisfactory condition as regards dress and personal neatness. They appeared to be contented, and we had no well-grounded complaints of their treatment, although some, of course, appealed for their discharge. Twenty per cent. of them were epileptics, and 1·4 per cent. general paralytics. No one was wearing a strong dress. Nearly 3 per cent. wetted their beds or bedding on the night preceding our visit. Twenty-five per cent. attend the chapel services, and 28 per cent. the associated entertainments, which are at frequent intervals. Only 13 per cent. walk weekly beyond the asylum estate, and 2 per cent. daily beyond the airing courts, to which the very large proportion of 68 per cent. are altogether confined for exercise. Making every allowance for the helpless and degraded character of large numbers of the patients who are received here, this is a very undue proportion, which should be capable of material reduction if the necessary staff is provided. Forty-seven per cent. of the men, but only 29 per cent. of the women, find occupation in some useful manner. There had been no employment of mechanical restraint, and seclusion had been confined to one person for a short period. The 259 deaths, in the far too small proportion of 37 per cent. of which *post-mortem* examinations were made, were with two exceptions due to natural and not unusual causes. In one of the exceptions, the accidentally sustained fracture of a thigh contributed to the fatal issue, and in the other an imbecile girl was murdered by means of phosphorus sent in a cake by her sister, who now lies under sentence of death for the crime. Twenty-six per cent. of the deaths were from phthisis. Ten patients sustained fractures of bones—all

of them the result of accident. The physical health of the majority of the patients appeared to be good, but we found as many as 20 men and 16 women suffering from diarrhœa, with a high temperature—the specific nature of the illness, however, not being clearly ascertained, but the symptoms being similar to those in previous outbreaks. Subsequently to our visit, a considerable percentage of these cases was found to be suffering from typhoid fever, and many more cases of severe and fatal diarrhœa have occurred. To meet this emergency, temporary nurses have been engaged, and isolation and other precautions adopted. A chemical and bacteriological examination of the drinking water derived from the deep well seems to show conclusively sewage contamination, and to suggest this, and the undoubted overcrowding of many parts of the asylum as responsible for the outbreak. This epidemic also accentuates the need which we have frequently pointed out of a suitable isolation hospital, of increased infirmary accommodation, and improvement in the number and arrangement of the w.c.'s, with their insanitary fittings.

The staff of attendants consists of 42 men and 52 women for day, and 10 men and 13 women for night duty, and gives for day duty one attendant to every $21\frac{1}{2}$ male patients, and one nurse to every 21 female. This, although somewhat stronger than it was, is still quite incommensurate with the nursing and other requirements of an increasingly helpless and troublesome class of patients. It is obvious that the service is not attractive, for the large proportion of 41 per cent. of attendants and nurses of all classes have not yet served a year, and only 19 per cent. can count five years' service and upwards. No superior officer is regularly and continuously present at the bathing of the patients—an important requirement to which we have previously drawn attention without success.

We found the several rooms and other parts of the building generally clean and in very good order or in the process of becoming so—much renovation being in progress or arranged for. Beds and bedding were clean and well cared for, but many of the mattresses need re-making, and are, we understand, about to undergo that process. Some arrangement, should we think, be made for the continuous supervision by night of the huge dormitories containing 80 beds, which are at present visited only at intervals. The detached cottage, occupied by patients, is still unprovided with an alternative exit for escape in case of fire, although we have frequently drawn attention to this dangerous omission.

Dr. Elkins, lately the medical superintendent at the Sunderland Asylum, has succeeded Mr. Case, whose death we regret to report, in medical charge of this establishment, and his assistants are of the same numerical strength as heretofore.

It is greatly to be regretted that the abundant material which exists in this asylum for pathological research, which re-acts so strongly in giving increased interest to cases and keeping alive the medical spirit, is unable to be utilised in the absence of a suitable laboratory and the necessary appliances. We hope that they will be considered in connection with the much-needed improvement of the mortuary building.

(Signed)

F. NEEDHAM,
G. H. URMSON,

Commissioners in Lunacy.

APPENDIX G.

REPORT BY TWO OF THE COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY WHO
VISITED DARENTH ASYLUMS ON THE 26TH MAY, 1899.

OFFICE OF COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY,

66, VICTORIA STREET, S.W.,

June 22nd, 1899.

On the 26th ult., we visited and inspected with care the two departments of the Metropolitan district asylum at Darenth which have been heretofore distinguished as the adult asylum and the schools, and were under separate heads, but which we understand are now, and will in future be, under the same medical superintendent, and known as the Darenth Asylum alone. Dr. Taylor, formerly an assistant medical officer of the Claybury Asylum, has been appointed, and is in residence as the sole superintendent. There are at present four assistant medical officers, but two hold temporary appointments only. We are strongly of opinion that four permanent assistants are required for the medical charge of the 2,000 inmates of the asylum to be efficiently performed. This will be more than ever the case if, as we were told is contemplated, the improvable, and therefore healthy, children being removed elsewhere, leaving the asylum to be occupied by a larger proportion of unhealthy or feeble cases.

We found in the adult department 1,030 patients and in the children's department or schools 967, making a total of 1,997. Since the visit paid by two of our colleagues on the 1st May, 1898, 48 patients were admitted into the adult asylum, altogether, we believe from the schools, as no adult cases are now admitted from the parishes; eight were discharged or removed, and 47 had died. Into the schools 104 patients had been admitted, 68 discharged or removed, and 42 had died. In 1898, the mortality in the former department was 3.06 and in the latter 4.32 per cent. of the respective average numbers of patients resident in them. Both rates are very moderate. In the case of 43 of the 47 deaths in the adult asylum, or 92 per cent., and of 26 of the 42 deaths in the schools, or 62 per cent., *post-mortem* examination was made; and in only one case in either department did a bed sore exist on a body at death. The causes of the deaths were natural and ordinary, phthisis having been the most prevalent, accounting for 31 per cent. No inquest had been held. In the schools there had been an outbreak of diphtheria, which attacked 22 patients, none of whom appear to have died; and in the adult department two of the staff, but no patient suffered from the same disease. No other zymotic disease had appeared in the asylum. The serious but non-fatal casualties occurring in the interval between the two visits referred to were four in the adult and two in the children's department, and they resulted in fractures of bones, those in the latter department being stated to have been spontaneous. No mechanical restraint was employed in the former, and only in two instances, for short periods, in the latter department, and among the adults, one patient was twice secluded for periods amounting to 20 hours.

Of the entire number of patients in both departments, 669 or 33.5 per cent., are stated to be epileptic, and all these continue to be under constant supervision

at night. The number of patients who were reported to have wetted their beds or bedding in the night preceding our visit were 130 in the adult and 373 in the schools department. These numbers are very large, and while making every allowance for the condition of the patients, we think that in each division, by greater care and attention on the part of the night staff, to be strengthened if necessary, a very considerable reduction in them might be effected.

We learn that of the adults 346 and of the inmates of the schools 428 usually attend the Sunday service; that of the former class 370 and of the latter 484 attend the associated entertainments; that some 360 of the adults and 190 of the younger patients engage in useful employment; and that large numbers of each class are taken for exercise outside the airing courts, some beyond the asylum estate.

We were satisfied with the personal condition of the patients, whom we found to be well attended to. In the pavilions are very many children and youths of the most helpless bodily condition, who nevertheless were clean and evidently treated with great kindness. The dress generally was good and tidy. In the schools the course of instruction, which is chiefly industrial, hitherto adopted is continued, and in the workshops of this division we saw a very satisfactory number of lads engaged in shoemaking, tailoring, and other useful occupations, and doing very creditable work.

Both divisions were clean and in good order, some ordinary painting and decoration being, however, needed in some places. Thus in pavilions J and R [K] the dormitories require repainting, and we thought that some of the male wards in the adult division might with advantage be brightened up. We were glad to notice that the floors of the day rooms of all the pavilions have been stained and polished by dry rubbing, and we hope this treatment will be extended to all floors. We also observed that Gent's electric tell-tale clock has been provided for the schools and pavilions, and we were informed that new sanitary appliances are to be fitted throughout the adult division, the w.c. spurs also to be improved. We recommend that on the male side the opportunity be taken advantage of to abolish urinals.

A larger foul laundry, which should be a separate building, with its own distinct drying closets, is much needed; and if, as we understand, the administrative departments generally are to be re-arranged, this should be included in the scheme. Some receptacles for coals, dust, and dirty linen were being erected outside A, G, and I blocks, and will be found very useful.

The staff of attendants for day duty in the adult department includes 31 men and 34 women, giving an attendant to $14\frac{1}{4}$ male and 1 to $17\frac{1}{3}$ female patients; and in the schools there are 21 men and 65 women, a total of 86, which gives an attendant to $11\frac{1}{4}$ patients, male and female being reckoned together. For night duty there are in the adult 7 men and 8 women, and in the schools 8 men and 24 women. Of the total individuals in both divisions, however, 41 per cent. had not yet completed a year's service, and only 26 per cent. had been in the employment of the asylum for five years or upwards. The average maintenance charge per week is 8s. 9½d. We were glad to find the case books and *post-mortem* records better kept than they had been, and we do not doubt that the improvement will be maintained.

(Signed)

C. S. BAGOT,

E. MARRIOTT COOKE,

Commissioners in Lunacy.

APPENDIX H.

OPERATIVE RESOLUTIONS OF THE NATURE OF STANDING ORDERS,
PASSED BY THE ASYLUMS COMMITTEE DURING THE SEVEN
MONTHS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1899.

(1.) TRANSFER OF PATIENTS TO COUNTY ASYLUMS FROM DARENTH.

That the steward of the Darenth Asylums be instructed to follow the practice prescribed by sub-section 7 of section 24 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, in regard to the transfer to county asylums of patients from Darenth. 26th June, 1899. Vol. I., p. 6.

(2.) SUB-COMMITTEES.

That in the opinion of this committee it is not competent for the institution sub-committees to appoint minor standing sub-committees of their own number, but that it is competent for such sub-committees to depute at each of their meetings to not fewer than two of their members the duty of looking into matters of detail relating to any branch of the sub-committee's work, such as finance, works, &c 26th June, 1899. Vol. I., p. 20.

(3.) CLEANING AND PAINTING WORK.

That the report of the Surveyor to the Board on the recent suggestion of the medical superintendent of the Leavesden Asylum as regards painting and cleaning work, be generally approved, and that the Surveyor be instructed to see that when painting and cleaning work is required at the asylums in the future, the opinions expressed by him in his report are observed as far as possible. 10th July, 1899. Vol. I., p. 50.

(4.) WORK CARRIED OUT BY ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR.

That it be an instruction to the stewards of the asylums that, as regards all work carried out under the supervision of the Engineer of the Board or the Surveyor of the Board, the foreman of works and the *employés* of the skilled mechanic or artisan class are (i.) to execute any orders that may be given to them by those officials in reference to any such work, and (ii.) to comply with any request that they may make, either verbally or in writing, in reference to any portion of the plant or fabric. 2nd October, 1899. Vol. I., p. 135.

(5.) RETURNS OF WORKPEOPLE.

That the stewards of the three asylums be instructed to prepare and place before the committee at its next meeting a return showing the names, descriptions, and rate of pay of the various workpeople employed at their respective asylums on the 30th September (permanent or otherwise); and that a similar return be presented at the end of each quarter. 2nd October, 1899. Vol. I., p. 135.

(6.) RECORDS OF LABOUR AND MATERIAL.

That properly prepared books be kept at each of the asylums for recording the labour and material expended on all jobs other than those of simple ordinary repairs of everyday occurrence, which shall be shown under two heads -one for minor repairs to buildings, and the other for repairs to furniture. 2nd October, 1899. Vol. I., p. 135.

(7.) NEWSPAPERS, &c.

That sanction be given to a sum not exceeding £90 being expended annually in the purchase of newspapers and periodicals at each of the asylums, and that the medical superintendents be instructed to submit to their respective institution sub-committees once a year for approval a list of the papers, &c., they suggest should be purchased. 11th December, 1899. Vol. I., p. 187.

APPENDIX I.

To the Board of Management of the Metropolitan Asylum District;—

And to all others whom it may concern.

Whereas by an Order of the Poor Law Board dated the 22nd March, 1870, the Board of Management of the Metropolitan Asylum District were empowered to appoint from themselves one or more committee or committees, consisting of not less than five nor more than twelve persons, exclusive of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board, who may be appointed as additional members of all or any of such committees;

* * * * *

And whereas it is also expedient that the Board of Management should appoint two central committees, to be termed the Asylums Committee and the Hospitals Committee, to deal, respectively, with the imbecile asylums and the infectious hospitals for the time being under the control of the Board of Management, and that the said Order, dated the 31st July, 1897, should be altered so as to give to the said Children's Committee a constitution and powers similar to those of the said Asylums Committee and the said Hospitals Committee as hereinafter provided:

Now therefore, in pursuance of the powers given to us by the Statutes in that behalf, we do hereby Order as follows:—

Article I. * * * * *

Article II.—The said Order dated the 22nd March, 1870, shall be and is hereby rescinded so far as it enables the Board of Management to appoint any committee or committees to deal with the several imbecile asylums and the several infectious hospitals for the time being under the control of the Board of Management.

Article III.—(1.) The Board of Management shall appoint from their members two central committees, one to control and manage the imbecile asylums and the other to control and manage the infectious hospitals for the time being under the control of the Board of Management, to be called, respectively, the Asylums Committee and the Hospitals Committee.

(2.) The said Asylums Committee and the said Hospitals Committee and the said Children's Committee shall each consist of such number of persons, exclusive of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Board of Management, and the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee who may be appointed as additional members of each such committee, as the Board of Management may from time to time determine. Of the said Asylums Committee, the said Hospitals Committee, and the said Children's Committee, respectively, five members shall form a quorum.

(3.) The said Asylums Committee, the said Hospitals Committee, and the said Children's Committee shall respectively have the power of appointing such sub-committee or sub-committees as the said Asylums Committee, the said Hospitals Committee, and the said Children's Committee may respectively from time to time deem necessary, and, subject to the approval of the Board of Management, of delegating to such sub-committee or sub-committees so appointed such powers as the said Asylums Committee, the said Hospitals Committee, and the said Children's Committee may respectively deem necessary.

Article IV.—Where in any previous Order relating to the Board of Management the expression "Asylum Committee" or "Visiting Committee" occurs it shall mean the Asylums Committee or the Hospitals Committee, as the case may require, appointed in pursuance of Article III. of this Order.

Given under the Seal of Office of the Local Government Board, 4th February, 1899.

L.S.

HENRY CHAPLIN, *President.*

H. C. MONRO, *Assistant Secretary.*

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AMBULANCE COMMITTEE.

9th April, 1900.

**Prevalence
of Infectious
Diseases
during 1899.**

We submit our report on the work of the ambulance service of the Board during the year 1899.

The work performed by the ambulance stations depending on the number of cases of infectious diseases admissible to the Board's hospitals which occur in London, we first give a few particulars as to the prevalence of those diseases, namely, smallpox, scarlet, enteric, and typhus fevers, and diphtheria.

Of smallpox 29 (32)* cases were notified, of scarlet fever 18,089 (16,894), of enteric fever 4,453 (3,024), of typhus fever 13 (16), and of diphtheria (including membranous croup) 13,684 (11,855).

The percentage of these cases removed to the Managers' hospitals was, as regards scarlet fever, 74.34 (74.07), enteric fever 40.78 (36.97), typhus fever 84.62 (87.5), and diphtheria 69.69 (62.48). 28 notified cases of smallpox were sent to the South Wharf, but only 10† (6) cases were sent on to the Hospital Ships. No correction has been made in the foregoing figures for mistakes in diagnosis.

247 cases of enteric fever were sent into the general hospitals. If they could have been received into the Managers' hospitals, the percentage of admissions of this disease would have been raised to 46.74.

LAND SERVICE.

**Work of the
Ambulance
Stations.**

Appendices A and B (see pp. 48 and 49, Vol. II.) show the work performed by the six stations during the past year.

The following table briefly summarises the year's work of each station:—

STATION.	Number of Removals.	Number of Journeys.	Miles Run by Vehicles.
Eastern	8,015 (6,971)	5,211 (4,586)	42,661 (37,542)
North-Western	6,338 (5,329)	4,028 (3,509)	33,108 (26,503)
Western	6,914 (7,887)	4,392 (4,564)	41,053 (43,153)
South-Western (opened May 2, 1898)	6,509 (2,756)	4,424 (2,208)	43,546 (20,355)
South-Eastern	8,747 (8,060)	5,991 (5,328)	58,292 (57,041)
Brook	5,596 (4,040)	4,138 (2,925)	41,707 (30,083)
Totals	42,119 (35,043)	28,184 (23,120)	260,367 (214,677)

* Italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

† Exclusive of one case transferred from the Eastern Hospital.

The following table shows (a) the greatest number of patients removed to hospital in a single day by each station; and (b) the heaviest week's work of each station:—

STATION.	(a) Greatest number of patients removed in one day.		(b) Heaviest week's work.		
	Date.	Number.	Week ended	Removals (including transfers, &c.).	Mileage travelled.
Eastern	Oct. 24	35 (34)*	Oct. 21	272 (179)	1,391 (1,037)
North-Western	Nov. 27	23 (18)	„ 21	188 (86)	1,220 (912)
Western	Oct. 2	29 (31)	„ 7	195 (219)	1,481 (1,284)
South-Western	„ 3	32 (29)	„ 7	152 (89)	1,586 (964)
South-Eastern	„ 19	26 (27)	„ 21	274 (200)	1,779 (1,462)
Brook	„ 23	29 (22)	„ 21	197 (102)	1,421 (1,114)

The work of the Eastern Station was slightly increased as a consequence of the Managers having agreed to assist the Wood Green Urban District Council by admitting scarlet fever cases from that district into the Managers' hospitals, pending the then approaching completion of the council's own hospital. This station also undertook the conveyance between the laundry of the Eastern Hospital and the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road, of the linen, &c., used by the patients treated in two wards of the latter hospital which were hired by the Board for enteric patients. The South-Western Station's work also was increased by the opening in August of the new Grove Hospital at Tooting.

The average length of the journeys at the different ambulance stations were as follow:—

	Removals from Home.	Transfers.	Average of every kind of Journey.
	Miles.	Miles.	Miles.
Eastern	7.5 (7.4)	18.0 (18.0)	8.1 (8.1)
North-Western	7.3 (6.7)	18.0 (18.0)	8.2 (7.5)
Western	7.8 (7.9)	28.0 (28.6)	9.4 (9.4)
South-Western	8.7 (8.5)	22.5 (21.9)	9.8 (9.2)
South-Eastern	8.8 (9.8)	18.3 (19.7)	9.7 (10.7)
Brook	9.5 (9.3)	18.0 (28.5)	10.0 (10.2)

In the case of a removal from home one patient is, as a rule, taken; in the case of a transfer the number of patients conveyed in a single vehicle would appear to be, at the

Eastern,	about 10 (9)	South-Western,	about 6 (6)
North-Western,	„ 10 (10)	South-Eastern,	„ 6 (6)
Western	„ 9 (10)	Brook,	„ 7 (10)

Staff. The health of the staff, both male and female, has on the whole been well maintained. At the Eastern Station 12 (9) members have been off duty, 5 of whom suffered from influenza, and others with minor disorders,

* Italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

involving in the aggregate a loss of service of 102 (74)* days. At the North-Western Station 5 (8) members have been off duty for an aggregate of 30 (72) days. At the Western Station 6 (7) persons were off duty for an aggregate of 98 (116) days. At the South-Western Station 1 (3) person was off duty for 12 (37) days. At the South-Eastern Station 4 (4) persons were off duty for a total of 17 (44) days. At the Brook Station 9 (9) persons were off duty for an aggregate of 115 (131) days.

There were 77 (50) resignations (including 17 reservists who left to rejoin the army), 12 (14) discharges, and 90 (69) appointments to the staff during the year; 2 (3) persons left without notice, and 13 (9) persons were transferred from one station to another.

Removals to the Managers' Hospitals.

On reference to Appendix A (Vol. II., p. 48) it will be seen that the total number of fever patients removed to the Managers' hospitals during the year was 24,917 (20,923). The removals of smallpox patients numbered 28 (36).

The average daily removals of fever patients in the first six months of the year was 57 (51), and during the last six months 80 (63). During the month of October the daily average was as high as 105 (76), and on the 19th October no fewer than 154 (127) patients were removed from their homes to the Managers' hospitals.

The aggregate removals during the year, including the transfer of patients from one hospital to another, numbered 42,119 (35,043).

Smallpox Patients admitted.

Of the 28 patients certified as suffering from smallpox who were received at South Wharf, 25 came from 17 out of the 31 poor law districts in the Metropolis, 1 from the Port of London, and 2 from West Ham. The monthly removals were as follow :—

January	...	...	3 (2)	July	...	...	2 (3)
February	...	...	2 (5)	August	..	...	3 (5)
March	...	...	1 (6)	September	...	...	1 (1)
April	...	...	5 (5)	October	...	...	1 (2)
May	...	...	4 (3)	November	...	...	2 (-)
June	...	...	3 (3)	December	...	...	1 (1)

In only 10 (6) cases was the diagnosis confirmed by the medical officers who inspected the patients at the wharves.

In addition to the 28 cases mentioned above, 8 patients were removed from the Eastern Hospital, 7 of whom were conveyed to the lower hospital at Gore Farm and 1 died *en route* to the Hospital Ships. The last-mentioned patient was admitted into the Eastern Hospital certified as suffering from scarlet fever. He was subsequently diagnosed as a case of hæmorrhagic smallpox, and was the source of infection of the seven other cases.

Non-Smallpox Cases.

All of the 18 (30) patients who were, in the opinion of the Board's medical officers, not suffering from smallpox were returned to their homes.

* Italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

Fever Patients. At the commencement of the year there were 4,899 (4,668)* patients in the Managers' fever hospitals, distributed as follows:—

Hospital.	Scarlet.	Diphtheria.	Typhus.	Enteric.	Other Diseases.	Total.
Eastern Hospital ...	74	220	—	45	—	339
North-Eastern Hospital	344	—	—	2	—	346
North-Western Hospital	237	90	—	56	—	383
Western Hospital ...	202	148	—	60	—	410
South-Western Hospital	179	108	—	22	—	309
Fountain Hospital ...	159	133	—	—	—	292
Grove Hospital...	45	161	—	117	—	323
South-Eastern Hospital	114	211	—	42	—	367
Park Hospital ...	207	268	—	35	—	510
Brook Hospital ...	273	187	—	21	—	481
Northern Hospital ...	477	63	—	—	—	540
Gore Farm Hospital ...	503	96	—	—	—	599
Totals ...	2,814	1,685	—	400	—	4,899

The total number of cases of all diseases under treatment fell to the minimum 3,208 (3,120) for the year by April 29th (May 28th); after this date the number rose slowly up to August 9th, when it stood at 4,365, it then declined to 4,188 on September 9th, after which date it continuously rose until it attained the maximum, 5,710 (4,745) for the year on November 21st, the same date as in 1898.

On July 5th the Hospitals Committee were advised that the maximum number of beds which would probably be required in the ensuing autumn for scarlet fever would be about 3,600 and for diphtheria about 1,800. The maximum numbers actually attained were: scarlet fever cases, 3,535 (on October 14th), and diphtheria cases, 1,768 (on November 23rd).

Patients conveyed to other places than the Managers' Hospitals. Under the powers conferred by section 79 (3) of the "Public Health (London) Act, 1891," 368 (326) persons suffering from dangerous infectious disorders were conveyed in the Managers' ambulances during the year 1899. Of these 28 (52) were stated to have measles, 76 (50) scarlet fever, 175 (120) enteric fever, 42 (42) diphtheria, 36 (56) erysipelas, 1 (3) puerperal fever, 1 (1) membranous croup, 5 (1) chickenpox, and 4 other diseases.

The total sum received by the Managers under this section of the Act during 1899 was £98 8s. 6d. (£103 16s.), of which £22 2s. 6d. (£22 7s. 6d.) was in respect of the services of nurses. In a considerable number of cases payment was remitted on account of the want of means of the patients.

RIVER SERVICE.

Steamers. The three ambulance steamboats—"Maltese Cross," "Albert Victor," and "Geneva Cross"—and the ambulance steam launch "White Cross" have been maintained in working order.

* Italic figures and dates in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures and dates for 1898.

The distance run collectively by the steamers to and from the Hospital Ships at Long Reach was 3,540 (3,966.5)* miles, and they conveyed 1,468 (955) patients and other passengers, and 154 tons 10 cwt. (52 tons 18 cwt.) of stores, &c. (see Appendix C, Vol. II., p. 50).

As in former years, several barges and other craft have come into collision with the Managers' steamers while lying at their moorings. The damage sustained has been made thoroughly good in every instance, and the total amount recovered in respect thereof during the year was £174 8s. 9d. (£55 17s. 6d.), making a total of £4,208 8s. 3d. recovered since 1885, in which year the present system of insurance against damage of all kinds, without the usual restrictive clauses, was first adopted.

Male Staff. There have been 11 (3) resignations (one man was superannuated) and 13 (3) appointments during the year.

Female Staff. Amongst the small staff of nurses, wardmaids and domestic servants retained at South Wharf in connection with the care of patients detained in the shelters and in the transport of patients by the steamboats, there have been only three resignations (wardmaids) and three appointments in lieu thereof.

COST OF AMBULANCE SERVICES.

The total expenditure during the year ended at Michaelmas last is as under:—

	Ordinary.		Special.		Total.	
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
For the Eastern Station	3,863	5 1	13	4 9	3,876	9 10
„ North-Western Station	3,450	4 5	20	6 3	3,470	10 8
„ Western Station	3,753	7 1	...	...	3,753	7 1
„ South-Western Station	3,375	7 5	...	...	3,375	7 5
„ South-Eastern Station	4,407	5 6	...	...	4,407	5 6
„ Brook Station	3,487	18 4	...	...	3,487	18 4
	£22,337	7 10	£33	11 0	£22,370	18 10
River Service	4,872	15 10	529	7 6	5,402	3 4
„ Medical Department	980	10 7	...	...	980	10 7
	£5,853	6 5	£529	7 6	£6,382	13 11

Expenditure out of Loan Account—	£	s.	d.
North-Western Station—On account of erection of station	705	4	6
River Service—On account of erection of shelter at South Wharf... ..	170	0	6
	£875	5	0

The ambulance nurses have, as in previous years, been drawn from the hospitals in proximity to the ambulance stations. For purposes of account and comparison as between the different institutions of the Board, the cost of their services has been assumed to be fairly represented by a fixed charge of 2s. 6d. per journey, and in the aggregate these charges amount to no less a sum than £3,319 (£2,819) for the past year.

(Signed) E. S. ADEANE,
Chairman of the Committee.

* Italic figures in brackets throughout are the corresponding figures for 1898.

REPORT OF THE HOSPITALS COMMITTEE, 1899.

21st June, 1900.

We do not think it would be expected or that it would be for the convenience of the Managers to present an annual report for the year ending 31st December, 1899.

Any record that we could submit would necessarily be but fragmentary for the reason that at the close of the year 1899 we had been in existence as the central Hospitals Committee only for the broken period of a little over six months, and many matters which stood over for reference to the new committee had been partially dealt with.

We hope to present early in 1901 a complete review of our work covering the period from the time we took over the "control and management" of the Board's infectious hospitals to the end of 1900, a period of eighteen months.

AUGUSTUS C. SCOVELL,
Chairman.

