LUNATICS AND EPILEPTICS IN WORKHOUSES.

RETURN to an Order of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 6 August 1900;—for,

RETURN "of the Number of (a) Lunatics, and (b) Epileptics, not classed as Insane, who were Inmates of Workhouses in England and Wales on the 1st day of January 1900, showing the Numbers admitted from each Administrative County and County Borough."

Local Government Board, 7 August 1900.

S. B. PROVIS, Secretary.

(Mr. John Hutton.)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,

8 August 1900.

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1900.

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Number of (a) Lunatics, and (b) Epileptics, not classed as Insane, in Workhouses in England and Wales on the 1st January 1900, who were admitted from each Administrative County and County Borough.

			-		
Administrative Counties And County Boroughs.	Number of Lunatics in Work-houses.	Number of Epileptics, not classed as Insane, in Workhouses.	Administrative Counties	Number of Lunatics in Work-houses.	Number of Epileptics, not classed as Insane, in Workhouses.
ENGLAND.	.		Leicester County Leicester County Borough -	69 65	10 64
Bedford County -	- 36	8	Lincoln:		
Berks County	- 68	13	Parts of Holland County Parts of Kesteven County	19 48	8 2
Reading County Borough	- 53	5	Parts of Lindsey County -	44	16
Buckingham County	56	18	Grimsby County Borough - Lincoln County Borough -	13 27	-
Cambridge County - · -	- 17	. 3	London County	6,295	570
CHESTER County Birkenhead County Borough	188 56	36 14	Middlesex County	78	34
Chester County Borough	72	5		.	0.2
Stockport County Borough	85	11	Monmouth County Newport County Borough -	48 2	29 7
Cornwall County -	100	10			•
Cumberland County	141	8	NORFOLK County Great Yarmouth County Borough.	78 87	16 5
Derby County Borough -	130 23 ·	30 9	Norwich County Borough -	68	15
Devon County	237 28	14 1	Northampton County Northampton County Borough	66 19	. 13 . 1
Exeter County Borough	26 -		Ţ		•
Plymouth County Borough -	75	_	Northumberland County - Newcastle-upon-Tyne County	59 107	13 6
Donser County	69	11	Borough.	107	U
DURHAM County Gateshead County Borough - South Shields County Borough	156 34 14	20 4	Nortingham County Nottingham County Borough	64 182	15 45
Sunderland County Borough -	78	7	Oxford County	54 21	21
ELY, ISLE OF, County	13	5	Peterhorough, Soke of, County	13	4
Essex County West Ham County Borough	173 52	58 41	RUTLAND County	6	
GLOUCESTER County	149	32	SALOP County -	118	13
Bristol County Borough -	423	13		l	
Gloucester County Borough -	3	8	Somerser County Bath County Borough	136 65	36 5
Hererord County	72	5	SOUTHAMPTON County	112	24
HERTFORD County	54	20	Portsmouth County Borough Southampton County Borough	136 115	47 3
Huntingbon County	15	-	STAFFORD County	422	36
Kent County	267	69	Hauley County Borough	34	4
Canterbury County Borough -	10		Walsall County Borough West Bromwich County	14 72	11 —
Lancaster County - Barrow-in-Furness County	884 10	112 3	Borough. Wolverhampton County Borough		12
Borough. Blackburn County Borough Bolton County Borough -		4 29	SUFFOLK, Eastern Division, County - Ipswich County Borough -	56 17	20 2
Bootle County Borough -	-22	11		1	
Burnley County Borough	35	13 7	SUFFOLE, Western Division, County	35	7
Liverpool County Borough Manchester County Borough	392 592	104 140	SURREY County Croydon County Borough -	130 29	36 14
Oldham County Borough Preston County Borough	119	10	Sussex, Eastern Division, County -	84	31
Rochdale County Borough St. Helen's County Borough	52 38	15 3	Brighton County Borough - Hastings County Borough -	70 5	- 13 4
Saiford County Borough -	293	41			
Wigan County Borough	51	-	Sussex, Western Division, County -	47	4

Administrative Counties And County Boroughs.	Number of Lunatics in Work-houses.	Number of Epileptics not classed as Insane, in Workhouses.		Number of Lunatics in Work-houses.	Number of Epileptics, not classed as Insane, in Work- houses.
Warwick County - Birmingham County Borough - Coventry County Borough -	64 246 34	21 118 1	WALES. Angleser County	20	
WESTMORLAND County	44	2	Brecon County	20 16	
Wight, Isle of, County Wilts County	21 134	2 28	Cardigan County	33	_
Worcester County Dudley County Borough Worcester County Borough	107 52 23	24 1 4	CARMARTHEN County	47 52	7 5
York, East Riding, County Kingston-upon-Hull County Borough.	38 33	6 24	DENBIGH County	63 36	2
York, North Liding, County Middlesbrough County Borough.	60 5	7 5	GLAMORGAN County Cardiff County Borough Swansea County Borough	79 14 63	12 6 —
YORK, WEST RIDING, County - Bradford County Borough Halifax County Borough Huddersfield County Borough	306 132 6	46 	Merioneth County	27 29	_ 2
Leeds County Borough Sheffield County Borough York County Borough	32 101 283 98	$\begin{bmatrix} 24 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$	PEMBROKE County	23 7	5 1
<u>· </u>	•		TOTAL	17,460	2,566

36'2.

[Price 3d.

l, by The House of Commons, to be 8 August 1900.

(Mr. John Hutton.)

LUNATICS AND BPILEPTICS IN WORKHOUSES.

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSALS MADE BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF 1899 ABOUT THE AGED DESERVING POOR.

MINUTE OF APPOINTMENT.

I hereby appoint Sir Edward W. Hamilton, K.C.B., Edward William Brabrook Esquire, C.B., Samuel Butler Provis, Esquire, C.B., and Noel A. Humphreys, Esquire, to be a Committee to obtain information bearing upon certain questions raised in connexion with the Report, dated 26th July, 1899, of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the Aged Deserving Poor.

And I hereby appoint Sir Edward Hamilton to be Chairman and C. A. Phillimore, Esquire, to be Secretary of the said Committee.

(Signed) HENRY CHAPLIN,
President of the Local Government Board.

Whitehall, S.W., 15th August, 1899.

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REPORT

OF THE

DEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF THE PROPOSALS MADE BY THE SELECT COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS OF 1899 ABOUT THE AGED DESERVING POOR.

I. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS.

To the President of the Local Government Board.

Sir, 9th January, 1900.

- 1. We have the honour to lay before you the result of the investigations which, in pursuance of your Minute of the 15th August last, we have made in connection with the Report from the Select Committee on the Aged Deserving Poor.*
- 2. That Committee formulated a scheme for the award of pensions to poor persons who, being able to fulfil certain conditions, had reached the age of 65; and the main object of the inquiry entrusted to us was to arrive at some estimate of the cost which such a scheme, if put into operation, would involve. But we understood that we were desired also to estimate the cost of the scheme on the supposition that the pensionable age were fixed at 70 or 75.
- 3. We have endeavoured to the best of our ability to comply with the instructions given to us; but we may say at the outset that we entered upon our inquiries, and we now submit the results of them, with great diffidence, owing to the want of actual facts and of accurate statistics bearing on many of the points which the recommendations of the Select Committee raise. We have thus been obliged to resort, more often than not, to assumptions; and these must in some cases, we frankly admit, be open to question.
- '4. Towards overcoming this difficulty we proceeded, at your suggestion, to endeavour to supplement the want of general information by instituting local inquiries in different parts of the United Kingdom, on the lines of an interesting experiment made by Colonel Milward, M.P., in South Warwickshire, the results of which he laid before the Select Committee.
- 5. After consultation with some of the general inspectors of the Local Government Board, we selected for this purpose certain parts of unions in England and Wales, taking care that the selection should be made as representative as possible by the inclusion of metropolitan, urban, mining, and rural districts. The clerk of the guardians in each selected union was then invited by the general inspector for the district to make arrangements for procuring, by means of a house to house visitation, replies to certain queries which we had drawn up and indicated on enumeration cards, of which a specimen will be found in Appendix I—3, p. 8. The queries were intended to ascertain the number of persons of all classes in each selected district who were 65 years old or more; their actual ages; their weekly incomes; how their incomes (when not exceeding 20s. a week) were derived; whether they could adduce some definite proof of thrift, by reason of their having been, or of their being, members of benefit societies or depositors in savings banks; and whether they were, or had been, in receipt of Poor Law

^{*} Parliamentary Paper, No. 296, of 1899.

[†] See Appendix 14 at p. 201 of Parliamentary Paper, No. 296 of 1899.

relief. The clerk of the guardians was requested to find persons who could be trusted to conduct the inquiry carefully and tactfully in his union, and to instruct those persons to fill in the cards and to return them to him when they were filled in. We have every reason to believe that the work entrusted to the enumerators was done efficiently and intelligently. The results deducible from the enumerations, which have been tabulated in the General Register Office, are given in Appendix II.; and we shall show in the course of this Report what light they throw on the subject of our investigation.

- 6. Steps were also taken in Scotland with a view to instituting a similar kind of test census in certain typical districts in that country; and the results of that census, which have been tabulated by the Local Government Board for Scotland, will be found in Appendix III. It will be seen that the Scottish inquiry embraced a larger number of areas and persons, not only relatively but actually, than the English inquiry.
- 7. In Ireland, the idea of a house to house visitation was abandoned at the instance of the authorities at the Local Government Board for Ireland; and we have had to be content with estimates made by the general inspectors of the Board after minute inquiries from clerks of unions, relieving officers. poor rate collectors, and other officials. The results obtained through these inquiries are less detailed and more conjectural than those which have been obtained by the more methodical process adopted in England and Scotland; but they have the advantage of relating men of great experience and knowledge in local administration. They are given in Appendix IV.

II. THE SELECT COMMITTEE'S SCHEME

- 8. We now proceed to summarise the scheme which was framed by the Select Committee. The qualifications which they prescribed as constituting eligibility for pensions, in the case of women as well as men, whether married or unmarried, were seven in number, which may briefly be stated as follows:
 - (1.) British nationality.
 - (2.) Attainment of the age of 65.
 - (3.) Absence of conviction for any serious offence between the ages of 45 and 65.
 - (4.) Non-receipt of poor law relief (other than medical relief) during the 20 years preceding the application for a pension, unless under circumstances of a wholly exceptional character.
 - (5.) Residence within a given district.
 - (6.) Non-possession of an income (from any source) of more than 10s. a week.
 - (7.) Proved industry or proved exercise of reasonable providence by some definite mode of thrift.
- 9. To all those who fulfilled these qualifications to the satisfaction of the pension authority, that authority, composed in part of guardians of the poor, was to award pensions of not less than 5s. a week (i.e., 13l. per annum), or more than 7s. a week (i.e., 18l. per annum), according to the cost of living in the locality; the award being made for not less than three years and renewable thereafter, but liable at any time to be withdrawn. The cost of the pensions was to be borne by the common fund of the union, to which the Exchequer would contribute not more than half the total pension charge; such contribution being allocated, not in proportion to the amount of the awards, but on a basis of population.†
- 10. We propose to consider successively each of the prescribed qualifications.

^{*} See Paragraph 56 of Report of Select Committee, No. 296 of 1899.

i See Paragraph 77 of Report of Select Committee, No. 296 of 1899; also footnote at p. xxiv. infra-