

The absolutely forfeited instalments in each month are as follows :—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|-----------|--------|----|----|
| 1910. | | | |
| April | 104 | 16 | 8 |
| May | 114 | 19 | 3 |
| June | 114 | 8 | 8 |
| July | 117 | 15 | 0 |
| August | 113 | 10 | 11 |
| September | 118 | 11 | 9 |
| October | 116 | 3 | 5 |
| November | 86 | 9 | 6 |
| December | 103 | 12 | 7 |
| 1911. | | | |
| January | 119 | 0 | 10 |
| February | 116 | 12 | 0 |
| March | 79 | 12 | 5 |
| | £1,305 | 13 | 0 |

The instalments not collected within the time allowed by law, but subsequently specially authorized and paid during the year, numbered 890, representing a total of £1,630.

The absolutely forfeited instalments for the past six years are as follows :

| Year | £ |
|------|-------|
| 1906 | 1,330 |
| 1907 | 1,363 |
| 1908 | 1,199 |
| 1909 | 1,330 |
| 1910 | 938 |
| 1911 | 1,305 |

HOMES AND HOSPITALS.

The amount paid to the controlling bodies of the various homes and hospitals during the year totalled £21,213 9s. 4d., an increase of £1,264 on the amount paid in the previous year. £1,260 6s. 5d. of the total represents the charge made for the medical treatment of pensioners in hospitals. The number of pensioners paying for maintenance at the end of the year was 811, being an increase of eighteen on the number at the end of last year. Full particulars regarding these payments, including the amount allowed to pensioners out of each month's instalment, appear in Table X of the appendix. The amounts paid in this direction during the past six years, and the number of pensioners being maintained at the end of each year, are as follows :—

| Year. | Amount paid. £ | Number of Pensioners at End of Year. |
|-------|-------------------|--|
| 1906 | 14,350 | 616 |
| 1907 | 16,121 | 637 |
| 1908 | 16,991 | 645 |
| 1909 | 17,973 | 714 |
| 1910 | 19,949 | 793 |
| 1911 | 21,213 | 811 |

The decrease in the annual expenditure on outdoor relief since the Old-age Pensions Act came into force in 1898 is indicated by the following table :—

| Year ended | European Population. | Annual Cost of Outdoor Relief. £ | Cost per Head of Population. s. d. |
|------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| 31st March, 1899 | 746,676 | 50,850 | 1 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " 1900 | 758,617 | 41,790 | 1 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " 1901 | 772,719 | 42,181 | 1 1 |
| " 1902 | 789,994 | 38,934 | 0 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| " 1903 | 814,842 | 43,421 | 1 0 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| " 1904 | 888,954 | 42,618 | 1 0 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " 1905 | 864,971 | 40,799 | 0 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " 1906 | 889,968 | 39,547 | 0 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " 1907 | 913,873 | 38,305 | 0 10 |
| " 1908 | 937,587 | 33,998 | 0 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| " 1909 | 968,313 | 37,537 | 0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " 1910 | 987,480 | 38,988 | 0 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " 1911 | | (figures not available). | |

MENTAL HOSPITALS.

The number of old-age pensioners committed to the mental hospitals of the Dominion during the year was ninety-six, the percentage to the total number of pensioners whose names appeared on the roll during the same period—i.e., 17,719—being 0.54 per cent.

The instalments paid to the Mental Hospital Department on account of these totalled £1,105 9s. 6d., and the number still being maintained at the end of the year was sixty-eight.