

Year.	Number of General Hospitals.	Number of Beds.	Proportion of Beds per 1,000 of Population.
1904-5	47	2,048	2.40
1905-6	52	2,186	2.49
1906-7	53	2,331	2.58
1907-8	53	2,347	2.54
1908-9	53	2,502	2.65
1909-10	56	2,689	2.75
1910-11	57	2,863	2.87
1911-12	60	3,057	3.00
1912-13	63	3,176	3.03
1913-14	63	3,292	3.06

Capital expenditure on general hospitals is as follows :—

	£
1904-5	28,640
1905-6	20,379
1906-7	31,508
1907-8	39,499
1908-9	55,837
1909-10	52,341
1910-11	62,237
1911-12	70,331
1912-13	87,042
1913-14	113,353

General.

1. Hospital and charitable-aid expenditure has increased in the ten years ending 31st March, 1914, from 6s. 1d. per head of population to 10s. 9½d.

2. But 26.8 per 1,000 of the population availed themselves of hospital treatment in 1913-14, as against 17.9 in 1904-5.

3. And the average number of occupied beds per diem rose from 1,290 to 2,234, or from 1.51 to 2.08 per 1,000 of the population.

4. The resulting capital expenditure necessitated thereby has provided 3,292 beds, as against 2,048, or 3.06 per 1,000 of the population, as against 2.40 in 1904-5.

5. Capital expenditure was £28,640 in 1904-5 and £113,353 in 1913-14.

6. In addition to the necessity for providing additional wards, many of the old wooden hospitals have had to be rebuilt.

7. The cost per occupied bed in the general hospitals during the last five years has been,—

	£	s.	d.
1909-10	100	7	0
1910-11	96	19	0
1911-12	106	6	0
1912-13	100	6	0
1913-14	105	2	0

8. Patients' payments have averaged, per occupied bed,—

1909-10	21	10	1
1910-11	20	17	8
1911-12	21	12	0
1912-13	22	8	0
1913-14	23	10	0

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THE NURSES REGISTRATION ACT, MIDWIVES ACT, AND PART III OF THE HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS ACT (PRIVATE HOSPITALS).

REPORT BY MISS H. MACLEAN, ASSISTANT INSPECTOR.

THE NURSES REGISTRATION ACT.

During the year two examinations under the Act have been held by the State in nine different centres. There were 175 candidates, of whom 155 passed, and their names were placed on the register.

Advisable as it would be to hold the oral and practical examinations in a limited number of centres, preferably only the four chief towns, it is not practicable to do so. The long distances and length of time and expense of travelling to these centres prohibit it. Moreover, unlike students for other professions, probationer nurses are engaged in carrying on the