

TABLE 15.—GIVING PATIENTS AND COST OF HOSPITAL MAINTENANCE IN ONTARIO, 1915

Total patients	85,000
Total days' stay of adults	1,076,755
Total days' stay of infants	89,498
Average days of both classes	20.6
Total average cost per diem	\$1.64
Total average cost per annum per patient	\$12.4
Total expenditure on maintenance	\$2,752,467.71
Total population of province	2,767,550
Total public hospitals (including sanatoria)	9
Private hospitals	68
Government grant to houses of refuge and orphanages in 1915	\$109,702.23

The hospital statistics just given illustrate a number of important points, such as,

(a) The remarkable increase in the hospital treatment of disease in Ontario as well as elsewhere in Canada.

(b) The increase in hospitals in Ontario until there is one for almost every two incorporated municipalities.

(c) The large number of persons to whom hospital treatment is given.

(d) The large grants to hospitals in Ontario, being, in 1915, \$303,600 from the province, \$931,109.54 from municipalities and \$1,282,263.95 from patients as board alone. The annual expenditure by the government on hospitals for the insane amounted to \$760,898.26 in 1915-16, to which \$354,145.58, collected from patients and by other taxation, must be added; while for protecting the public, against contagious disease especially, we have the expenditure made by the Provincial Board of Health of \$75,000, apart from that of some 800 local Boards of Health.

Cost of Ill-health

We have been in the habit for so long of thinking of disease as a matter of the individual, that but little thought has been given to the part taken by government in its treatment or suppression; but a perusal of the above statistics gives at least a partial idea of how closely the state is associated with the care of the health of the people. It would seem that at least 60 per cent of the \$4,000,000 annual expenditures on public institutions is supplied from public grants and charitable gifts. But there is, in addition to this, a very large amount of money spent by mutual benefit societies, in which payments are made by contract to physicians for the care of members.