

REPORT OF CASUAL POOR COMMITTEE.

To the Board of the House of Industry :

HOMELESS POOR OF TORONTO.

The number who found shelter at the Wayfarers' Lodge for the year April, 1898, to April, 1899, was 335 ; the numbers for three consecutive years being 441, 377, and 335. There were 28 whose age was less than 20, and 288 whose age was between 20 and 30. The total number of nights these were in the rooms of the House was 5,716 and cost of maintenance was \$914.63. Average number of nights to each person, 17.

The number of men who came from outside the city and found shelter in the Lodge last year was 934 as against 1,015 the year before. The numbers for the three consecutive years being 1,094, 1,015, and 934. The total number of nights granted to this class was 3,707. The cost of maintenance was \$609.74. Therefore, the total number of men in the Wayfarers' Lodge for the past year was 1,269, the year before it was 1,392, the three consecutive years being 1,535, 1,392 and 1,269. During the year 31 women found shelter in the House, therefore, the total number of persons was 1,300. Average number, 4 nights.

The average number in the Lodge each night during the past season was 44.

The total cost of the Lodge for the year was \$1,524.37, as against \$1,780.25 the year before. The three consecutive years being \$1,954.64, \$1,780.25, and \$1,524.37.

It is gratifying to know that during the year a number of comfortable and well equipped county homes have been erected for the care of the poor, and that other counties are now moving along the same line.

Quite a decline in the number of prisoners committed to jail during the past year—628 less.

The thanks of the House are due to the City corporation for supplying an ample quantity of stone for the application of the labor test which was rigidly enforced on the casuals during the past winter months. The quantity broken was $71\frac{1}{2}$ toise, value \$429, which is now being carted out of the yard and put upon the streets of the city.