

hundreds of medical graduates of the old Queen's University and Royal University who have not registered as graduates of the new Queen's University, Belfast, and are not known to have selected the National University, Dublin. The privilege was open to them before this election and remains still open. The total number of persons on the register was 2,039, and of those 1,605 voted—about 79 per cent. The proportion would, we understand, have been higher but that a certain number of votes from the army and navy arrived too late to be counted, owing to a breakdown in the Holyhead mail.

#### POOR LAW MEDICAL OFFICERS' SALARIES.

The Local Government Board has addressed a letter to the Omagh Board of Guardians with regard to the salaries paid to its medical officers. It points out that the cessation of hostilities has altered the outlook, and should enable the local bodies to take a more confident view of their financial resources, and to deal with matters such as this in a liberal and generous spirit. The Board adds that there has been no change in its views, and seriously urges the guardians to arrange terms with their medical officers. The Strabane (co. Tyrone) Board of Guardians has made a scale of salaries for its medical officers, with an initial salary of £180 and triennial increments of £10 until a maximum of £250 is reached. This is the best scale that has been made in any union in Ulster, and is almost entirely due to the efforts of Dr. William Lyle, Newtownstewart. The Urlingford (co. Kilkenny) Board of Guardians has granted a similar scale to its medical officers with retrospective application.

## Scotland.

#### HOUSING IN GLASGOW.

THE Glasgow Corporation has in hand a very large scheme of housing, and it has been decided to give immediate effect to the first part, which will provide 7,000 dwellings in various parts of the city. It is the intention to erect cottages—each dwelling being furnished with bath and scullery, and a garden plot in some districts; but in others there will be a combination of cottages and three-story tenements. In the scheme for the first district to be taken in hand the buildings will be constructed of stone, brick, and concrete blocks and concrete slabs. The intention is that the rents shall correspond with pre-war costs. The expenditure will be made as to 75 per cent. from a Government grant; the provision of the remaining 25 per cent. will involve a rate in Glasgow of 2d. in the £. The complete scheme is to provide 47,000 houses at the rate of 5,000 per annum. The scheme has only been undertaken after a thorough examination of each district, its existing house accommodation, and the social complexion of the community. Some time ago, when the central area was comparatively purified, the fatal mistake was made of erecting dwellings out of proportion to the economic resources of the people; on this occasion special attention is being given to this point. The new scheme does not touch the slum areas, which can only be purified at great cost, amounting in the case of Glasgow to a rate of 2s. 3d. in the £. It is understood, however, that the Local Government Board in Scotland is framing a scheme involving Government grants on a large scale.

## England and Wales.

#### THE AIR RAIDS ON LONDON.

THE full official report of the London Fire Brigade upon the twenty-five air attacks on the metropolis between May, 1915, and May, 1918, is now available, and although it contains little that was not common knowledge, the particularity with which the events are set forth makes it an important historical document.

#### Damage to Hospitals.

One curious feature of the raids was the frequency with which hospitals were damaged, and the relative smallness of the resulting casualties. At least seventeen hospitals, not to speak of several nursing homes, suffered either by

the explosion of a bomb in the neighbourhood, or by being struck with an anti-aircraft shell, yet it is not clear from the report that a single person within the buildings was killed. St. Bartholomew's Hospital was twice damaged: in the Zeppelin raid of September 8th, 1915, 1,200 squares of glass were smashed and the roof broken, and in the first big daylight raid on June 14th, 1917, the nurses' quarters were struck. The Royal General Dispensary in Bartholomew Close was also damaged on both occasions. Another institution to have the double measure of affliction was the Bethlem Royal Hospital for the Insane; a projectile fell on the lawn on September 29th, 1917, and caused considerable havoc, and on December 18th a dormitory building of four floors suffered by an explosive bomb. The British Red Cross Society was also twice hit, once at its premises at Burlington House, and again at a covered court on Dulwich Common, when two persons were killed. One of the earliest raids—the third—injured the façade and smashed the windows of the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, of the Queen Alexandra Hospital for Children, and of the Examination Hall of the Royal Colleges. Guy's Hospital Medical School suffered in the daylight raid of July 7th, 1917, and during the series of moonlight raids at the end of September of that year one floor of the South-Eastern Fever Hospital at New Cross was damaged by fire; an unexploded bomb dropped on a heap of coke in St. Pancras Infirmary, and anti-aircraft shells accounted for slight damage to the Poplar General Hospital, the Royal Hospital for Incurables at Putney, a private hospital in Park Lane, and four military hospitals as far apart as Shooter's Hill and Hampstead, with, apparently, injury to only one person within the buildings. On September 4th of that year a bomb exploded in the roadway between Charing Cross Hospital and the offices of the British Medical Association. The front of the hospital was badly scarred, and the front of the Medical School partially wrecked, but the damage to 429, Strand, according to the report, was limited to window breakage. This bomb killed three persons and seriously injured ten others. Two years previously, a quarter of a mile away, a single bomb from a Zeppelin had killed seventeen people outside the Lyceum Theatre; but the greatest destruction of life by a single hit took place on January 28th, 1918, at the printing works of Messrs. Odhams, in Long Acre, where the BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL was machined. Thirty-one persons were killed and ninety-five taken to hospital; the place was used as an air-raid refuge, which accounted for the high casualty list. The material damage was very extensive also, and included the destruction of many tons of paper which had been accumulated for the JOURNAL. The Harley Street neighbourhood seems to have enjoyed a measure of immunity, but almost the last bomb to fall on London, on Whit Sunday, fell in Park Crescent, Portland Place, and smashed the windows of many houses in the vicinity.

#### Ambulance Work during Air Raids.

The removal of cases of injury and shock during a bombardment from the air required a large and rapidly mobile service, far beyond anything necessary for dealing with ordinary street accidents. The existing London County Council ambulances were altogether inadequate for such an emergency, and therefore various ambulance bodies were approached by the municipal service and asked to co-operate. The military authorities placed their hospital vans at the disposal of the county, and certain voluntary organizations which have made it their business to meet trains bringing wounded from the front and to perform other public services offered their ambulances also; these bodies included the London Ambulance Column, the London Volunteer Rifles, the National Motor Volunteers, and Voluntary Aid Detachments. Cars were also sent from the Crystal Palace and Greenwich by the Royal Naval Division, and certain other Red Cross and private ambulances were provided. The result has been that on the occasion of a raid from 70 to 100 motor ambulances, as well as a large number of motor cars for sitting cases, have been distributed among the seven Council ambulance stations in the county. Each of these vehicles was usually provided only with a driver, but through the assistance of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John the services of skilled first-aid attendants were secured. All these attendants were continually instructed and rehearsed in a uniform method of dealing with air-raid casualties, and were never allowed to lose touch with the system,