death-rate during the same period in the large English towns. The highest zymotic death-rates were recorded in Aberdeen, Perth, and Greenock. The ideal death-rate est.REGISTERED 12 from measles, 6 from scarlet fever, and 5 from "fever." The death-rate from diseases of the respiratory organs in these towns was equal to 2.6 per 1,000, against 2.1 in London.

HEALTH OF IRISH TOWNS.

In sixteen of the principal town districts of Ireland, the deaths registered during the week ending Saturday, September 28th, were equal to an annual rate of 27.5 per 1,000. The highest rate of deaths was observed in Cork and Drogheda, and the highest in Lismore and Lurgan. The death-rate from the principal zymotic diseases averaged 3.9 per 1,000. The deaths registered in Dublin were equal to an annual rate of 27.5 per 1,000, against 22.1 and 21.0 in the preceding weeks, the rate for the same period being 34.7 in Limerick and 33.0 in Ennis. The lowest rate in Dublin included 28 which were referred to the principal zymotic diseases (equal to an annual rate of 4.1 per 1,000), of which 20 resulted from diarrhoea, 5 from whooping-cough, and 3 from typhoid fever.

HOSPITAL AND DISPENSARY MANAGEMENT.

SUNDERLAND INFIRMARY.

Last week the Bishop of Durham laid the foundation-stone of a new hospital ward upon the subscribers of the Sunderland Infirmary, where Newcastle is the most important and largest hospital in the North, and one which has been most excellently managed. In 1888 when the hospital was struck a blow which nearly one-half of its income was subscribed by working men; that the annual returns were £1,091 per annum, and that the institution could boast of a large balance (some £2,000) after paying its working expenses for the year. The annual report has just been issued. The number of cases admitted during the year was 4,869; the in-patients being 2,156, the out-patients 2,701, 1,217 in-patients were surgical, 862 medical. The average cost of treatment in the surgical wards was 15s. 6d. per day; in medical wards 15s. 2d.; in the children's wards 15s. 2d. The average cost of each patient was £3. 10s. 6d.; inclusive of fittings, repairs, etc., it was £4. 12s. 6d. The average cost per occupied bed was £10 2s., plus fittings and repairs it was £11 17s. 6d.

ADDENBROOKE'S HOSPITAL, CAMBRIDGE.

The Weekly Board of Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, have issued a circular to the subscribers, calling their attention to the fact that letters are often given to persons who are unable to pay for medical attendance themselves. This is in contravention of one of the standing rules of the hospital. "As there are, the circular states, "various sick benefit clubs and also provident medical associations at Cambridge which persons who can pay for medical aid can readily join; and as exceptions may be made whenever special or immediate aid is needed, and also in cases where the applicant, having obtained medical aid, is not able through strained circumstances to continue it, the Weekly Board believe that a stricter observance of Rule 51 will inflict no hardship on proper applicants for recommendation papers, and will help to maintain the present efficiency of the hospital." It will be interesting to know what influence this circular has on the number of such applications, and what effect in checking the increase in the number of patients which has been noted in recent years.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COUNTY AND CITY ASYLUM OF WORCESTER.

This important institution, containing 912 inmates, seems to be suffering from overcrowding, and the asylum has been the subject of a complaint that the inevitable process of extension. We are glad to observe, however, that there is an increasing opinion of the advantages of the asylum, which shall be a limit to the number of patients to be provided for, and this the committee have decided shall not exceed 1,200. In this they have acted wisely, for as Dr. Marriott Cooke, the able superintendent, states, much truth, "if enlarged beyond this limit it would be an impossibility for the superintendent to maintain that intimate knowledge of his patients and group of the details of management which are so essential. The number of patients during the year was greater than in any previous year since the opening of the asylum, and in over 58 per cent. of these admissions there was not at the time of admission the slightest prospect of recovery. These number of incurably insane patients sent to asylums who have filtered through the hands of the medical profession on their journey thither seems to be lost sight of by those who seem to take pleasure in quoting statistics to prove that the course of the insane by our asylum medical officers does not keep pace with the treatment of other diseases. The recovery rate was shown as 56 per cent., the mortality 7.8 per cent., and this is nearly the lowest death-rate in the history of the asylum. The cost of maintaining the patients was fixed at 7s. 1d. per head per week.

ERATON.—Dr. J. D. McFeely writes: In your report on Hospital and Dispensary Management in an annual report of Medical Officers of Health in p. 271, col. 2, line 12, the word “Skin” should read “Shell,” from the founder, Dr. S. Shell.

The Secretary of the Iowa State Board of Health has made an official announcement that habitual inebriety on the part of a medical practitioner shall be held as "palpable evidence of incapacity," the delinquency liable to the revocation of the certificate entitled him to practise in the State of Iowa.

MEDICAL NEWS.

The Municipality of Seville has decided to establish two public pharmacies where poor patients may have prescriptions made up for nothing. The local druggists are up in arms against the proposal.

MEDICAL MAGISTRATE.—Mr. G. T. Schofield, L.R.C.P. & S.E., Medical Officer of Health for the Mossley Urban Sanitary District, has been placed on the Commission of Peace for that borough.

The current number of Mind contains a valedictory address by Professor Croom Robertson, who retires from the post of Editor. His successor is Mr. G. F. Stout, of St. John's College, Cambridge. An index to volumes 1 to 16 is also given in the same part. The next issue will begin a new series.

The Town Council of Cambridge have proposed to adopt the scheme of Mr. J. T. Wood, for the re-drainage of the borough at an approximate cost of £100,000. It is stated that the Chesterton Local Board are desirous of joining the Cambridge scheme.

The inaugural meeting of the Medical Society of King's College (Session 1891-92) will be held in the Marsden Library, October 19th, at 8 p.m., when an address will be delivered by Mr. Henry Smith, F.R.C.S., on "The Reminiscences of King's College.

The conversation at the Hospital for Consumption, Brompton—which has now become an annual institution—was held on October 2nd. The guests were received by the medical staff, and during the smoking concert the hall presented a very animated appearance.

The Congress of Alienist Physicians which recently met at Weimar has passed a resolution approving of the Bill for the suppression of drunkenness. The clauses making confirmed drunkenness a punishable offence were, however, disapproved of. Such persons, it was recommended, should be treated as diseased, and as such placed in proper asylums.

At last the question of the pollution of the Mersey and Irwell is being taken up in earnest. A joint committee, composed of representatives of the county councils of Lancashire and Cheshire and representatives of Manchester and other towns interested, held its first meeting in Manchester, under the presidency of Mr. Hibbert, on October 6th.

HUNTERIAN SOCIETY.—Two Hunterian Lectures will be delivered during this session, on October 22nd, and will for the first time be free to members of the profession. The first lecture of the Society will be delivered at the London Institution, Finsbury Circus, on October 14th, at 8.30 p.m., by Mr. Jonathan Hutchinson, F.R.S., on the "Laws of Partnership in Disease."

AN OVERDOSE OF COCAINE.—We regret to announce the death of Dr. Enstace Frederick Bright, aged 29, who has lately practised at Bournemouth. His decease was due, according to the finding of the jury at the inquest, to an overdose of cocaine taken inadvertently for the purpose of relieving pain. The deceased, it appeared, had been suffering severely from toothache.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITIES.—The total number of students in the University of Innsbruck in the summer semester of 1891 was 846, of whom 233 belonged to the Faculty of Medicine. The number of new students who have entered for the winter semester in the Medical Faculty of Buda-Pest is 170, which shows a considerable decrease as compared with the former years. Four years ago the number of entries was 280.

GRANTS FOR SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION.—Mr. Edward Thew Turnbull, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.P. Edin., L.F.P.S. Glas., Public Vaccinator for the North-East District of the Patrington Union, has received the Government grant for successful vaccination. Mr. Percy Howard Day, L.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., public vaccinator for the district of the Garstang Union, has for the second time received the Government grant for successful vaccination.