

Carlton, \$14,968; Frontenac, \$11,652, and Brant, \$10,332. The largest contribution from a single estate came from the County of Perth, the amount of duty paid being \$12,500, the deceased being an unmarried man. I will now briefly refer to the expenditure side of the accounts of 1894.

#### THE YEAR'S EXPENDITURE.

Civil government cost us a little less than last year, and legislation a little more. We spent more than we did in 1893 for education, for agriculture, for administration of justice, for hospitals and charities, and for colonization roads. We spent, aside from the Brockville Asylum, for the erection of which special provision was made by an act of the Legislature, \$116,000 less for public buildings than we did in 1893. We expect to spend still less for public buildings during the current year, since our wants for the time being have been almost fully met. Our expenditure for agriculture and arts, viz., \$181,064, exceeded that of any previous year by \$11,500. Our educational expenditures were \$22,000 higher than ever before. We spent considerably more than ever previously for administration of justice. I have already alluded to the increased expenditure on hospitals and charities. Under these four very important heads, viz., education, agriculture, administration of justice and hospitals and charities, our expenditures were higher than ever before, and this means, of course, an increased measure of relief of local burdens.

Our total expenditures for the year were considerably less than those of last year, and were kept well within our estimate. In connection with the Bureau of Mines, to mention one of our comparatively new and increasing branches of expenditure, we spent last year \$15,266. We hope that the seed thus sown, though it may be on a small scale, will ultimately bring a rich harvest to our people. Too much attention cannot be paid to our mining interests. The immediate outlook, due solely to the present widespread financial depression, may not be hopeful. At the same time, we cannot afford to look idly upon the splendid possibilities of our mining territory. Its admittedly enormous wealth, owing to hard times and want of capital, has as yet only been nibbled at, and with the advent of better times our mining districts must, beyond any doubt, attract capitalists and witness an era of marked prosperity. One-sixth of all the expenditures, of whatever kind, of this Province since Confederation has been incurred for the maintenance of our public institutions.

#### CAPITAL ACCOUNT EXPENDITURE

At the same time, the expenditure on capital account, in enlarging existing buildings and erecting new ones, has been enormous. If we add the two together, maintenance charges on the one hand and capital account on the other, we find that almost a fourth of all our expenditure has been incurred in this one direction. During the last few years, for example, we spent in erecting and equipping new asylums at Mimico, Orillia and Brockville \$1,356,997. We spent last year, in completing the Brockville Asylum, \$197,830. It was commenced in 1891 and was completed only two or three months ago, at a total cost to the Province of \$317,595. It consists of what is called the main building and six cottages, and provides almost perfect accommodation for 600 patients. The main building alone will accommodate 185 patients. We have now in the Province excellent accommodation for 4,586 insane. We have within a few years provided additional accommodation for 1,700 patients. At the end of 1894 there were 4,441 inmates in our seven asylums. We believe that we will now have adequate accommodation for all our afflicted for several years to come without incurring any further expenditure on new buildings. Our public institutions cost us last year for maintenance alone the large sum of \$756,984. We are all agreed that we should care for our insane, as well as for the deaf, dumb, blind and idiotic in our midst, in the most generous and humane way possible, and that it should be our constant duty to lighten as best we can the grievous burden of their terrible affliction. It is further a matter of just pride on the part of our people that this very important public duty has in no sense been neglected.

#### PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

Our public buildings, while not as expensive or as ornate as those in other countries, are second to none in any

country in the matter of general usefulness and adaptability to the public need. Our medical superintendents and physicians are skilled specialists and alienists, and keep well-pace with the many and marked advances and improvements which medical science from time to time unfolds. Our trained nurses and attendants and other officials compare favorably in point of usefulness and fitness with those in similar institutions elsewhere.

But it is not, Mr. Speaker, with considerations such as these that the House on this occasion is first of all concerned. I will be asked rather as to whether these institutions, admittedly excellent as they are in all regards, are maintained at as low a cost as possible, or whether we could not in some way or another, while maintaining their high efficiency, appreciably reduce our expenditures. For some years past I have given some attention to this question, and I assert most earnestly that the extreme desirability of effecting a saving, even a small saving, wherever possible, of reducing expenses of every nature to the very lowest limit practicable, and of securing the strictest economy generally to which constant vigilance could attain, has never been lost sight of. And the results, as we have them from time to time, comparatively and otherwise, fully support the statement I have made. It must be always borne in mind that eminent physicians and physiologists are agreed that a most important part of the treatment of the insane relates to what they call general nutrition, that the inmates of asylums require a greater amount and a better variety and quality of food than are usually supplied to the inmates of other public institutions, that an abundant supply of nutritious food contributes largely to the cure of the insane, and that, therefore, true economy demands the purchase of good, pure and unadulterated food.

#### THE EXPERIENCE OF OTHERS.

A comparison with the results in the neighboring State of New York may be useful, and, I hope, not uninteresting. Prior to Sept. 30th, 1893, the insane of that State were provided for by a county tax. What is called the State-care act became law in April, 1890, although it did not go into effect until October, 1893. Under the provisions of this act all the expenditures for the care of lunatics are met by direct State taxation, and it has been the means as well of transferring all the insane, about 2,200 in number, who were being cared for in a most unsatisfactory way in 54 county poor-houses, to the well-equipped and carefully-managed State hospitals. The State Legislature under the new act grants a general appropriation for the entire support of State hospitals. The State Commission in Lunacy, which was organized in 1889, recommended a tax of one-third of a mill, and it has been found that this rate, levied upon the taxable real and personal property of the State, together with the amount received from paying patients, suffices for the maintenance of the eight State Hospitals. The sum realized by this tax amounts to nearly \$1,400,000 a year, which, to quote the act, is devoted to "the care, medical treatment, maintenance and transportation of the insane poor to State Hospitals, the payment of officers' salaries, the payment of employees' wages, and ordinary and incidental repairs in State Hospitals."

For these charitable objects, then, a person having taxable, real or personal property in New York State, assessed for, say, \$3,000, pays \$1 a year to the Treasurer of his county, the County Treasurers sending these taxes to the Treasurer of the State. The annual State appropriation is expended upon minutely detailed monthly estimates prepared by the hospital stewards, under the direction of the Superintendents, and sent to the State Commission in Lunacy for revision and approval. Two very populous and important counties, namely, New York and King's, are as yet, however exempt from the provisions of the State-care act. It is expected, however, that these counties will at an early day be also brought within its provisions. The Lunacy Commission earnestly recommends that the asylums in these exempted counties be transferred to the State, and thus made part of the State Hospital system.

We have, then, in New York State, first the State Hospital system, which prevails in all its counties save two; secondly, the exempted counties system, with its six asylums, limited to the two counties I have named, and in the third place a licensed private asylum system. In the licensed private as-