

4. Part II. contains, as indicated above, the results of returns received at five different dates with respect to the number of indoor and outdoor paupers over the age of 70. The areas for which the figures are given are (a) poor law unions, and (b) "union counties," *i.e.*, groups of poor law unions.*

The following table, consisting of figures derived from pages 8 and 9 of the return, gives the principal comparative figures, *viz.* :—

PAUPERS OVER 70 YEARS OF AGE IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Indoor.	Outdoor.	Total.
31st March, 1906	61,378	168,096	229,474
1st January, 1910	57,701	138,223	195,924
" 1911	55,261	93,177	148,438
" 1912	49,370	9,530	58,900
4th January, 1913... ..	49,207	8,563	57,770
<i>Percentage decrease between 1906 and 1913</i> ...	<i>19·8</i>	<i>94·9</i>	<i>74·8</i>

The corresponding percentage decreases in Wales (with Monmouth) alone were—indoor, 13·7 ; outdoor, 91·0 ; total, 81·4.

It will be observed that the decrease has been mainly in the numbers of aged persons in receipt of out-door relief. Compared with the figures for 1906 the returns for 1913 show decreases in

England of 147,226 or 95·2 per cent.

Wales of 12,307 or 91 per cent.

England and Wales of 159,533 or 94·9 per cent.

In none of the Union Counties in England was the decrease less than 91·4 per cent., whilst in Cumberland and Rutland it exceeded 99 per cent.

In Wales the decrease ranged from 87·5 per cent. in Carnarvon to 96·2 per cent. in Flint.

An examination of the tables in Part II. (B) shows that the reduction noted was evenly spread throughout the country. It will be seen that in the majority of the unions the reduction in the number of aged persons in receipt of out-door relief was more than 90 per cent ; in some 90 unions, mainly of a rural character, there were actually no persons over 70 in receipt of out-door relief on the 4th January, 1913.

The change as regards aged persons in receipt of indoor relief has not been so marked, but the figures for January, 1913, show a reduction on those of March, 1906, of

11,909 or 20 per cent. in the case of England.

262 or 13·7 " " " Wales.

12,171 or 19·8 " " " England and Wales.

Local Government Board,
August, 1913.

* A full explanation, accompanied by detailed particulars, is given by the Registrar General in the Census Reports as to the differences between "administrative counties" and "union counties."