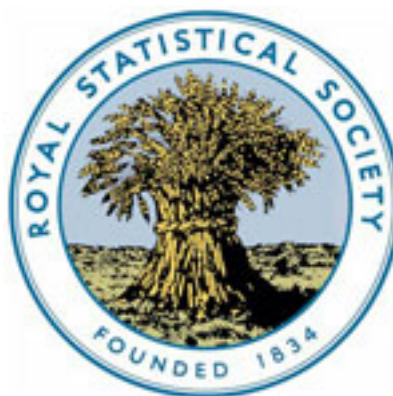


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Welfare and Housing by J. E. Hutton

Review by: J. C. S.

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the returns for boys and girls under twenty were published in the same year for Ireland. It is greatly to be desired that the Registrar-General should publish in a small handy volume comparative tables for England and Wales, Scotland and Ireland, and thus prevent the too frequent errors due to the difficulty of obtaining the volumes for Scotland and Ireland in ordinary reference libraries.

C.E.C.

9.—*Welfare and Housing.* By J. E. Hutton. 192 pp., 8vo. London: Longmans, Green and Co., 1918. Price, 5s. net.

This is the story of a successful experiment. It is told by the manager of the labour and catering department of perhaps the largest commercial undertaking in the country, and is full of practical information on questions which are of vital importance in the new industrial conditions that are developing during the war. Welfare supervision in the factories, the housing of the workpeople and the provision of canteens, motor transit, hospital service and amusements are all dealt with in working detail and discussed not as expensive philanthropic schemes but as economical means of maintaining the efficiency of the workers. Before the war Vickerstown was a marine garden city of 1,000 houses, near Barrow-in-Furness, and 610 houses have since been provided, together with theatre, institute, allotments and public house. At Crayford 589 and at Erith 400 five-room cottages have been erected, at an average cost of 350*l.* In addition, temporary housing accommodation has been secured in Kent and Surrey by taking over a number of public institutions and private houses over an area of 200 square miles and providing motor transport for the workers. The cost of the latter, including overhead and management charges, is given as 16*·*45*d.* per car mile, the consumption of petrol being at the rate of 6*·*12 miles to the gallon. The running of each char-a-banc is separately costed in order to check both petrol and tyre consumption. In connection with the catering and canteen work, analyses have been made of food consumption which show that the hostel daily dietary gives 3,847 or 3,913 calories per man and 3,070 per woman. These amounts are slightly higher than the recognised requirement for men on heavy manual work, and nearly 20 per cent. higher than that for men on ordinary manual work. As regards the women's dietary, while the amount is 5 per cent. less than the recognised requirement for women on heavy manual work, it is 25 per cent. in excess of that for women on ordinary work. Where so much is given it is exacting to ask for more, but the outline of the Hostel Trading Account, which is given in blank on page 55, would be exceedingly useful if it contained the actual results of a year's working. One of the features of the book is the frequent reference made to the working out of costings and detailed analyses—an indication of the importance attached to the results of statistical methods by a great commercial undertaking.

J.C.S.