

The dining rooms are open pavillions, with only a roof to keep off sun and rain. Warming and ventilation, the difficult conditions to be provided for, are here quite eliminated. The airing courts are very large and numerous, but they would be quite useless for such purposes in the north, for our patients would go over the enclosure as readily as they would through the gate. It would not be difficult to scale the ward or building itself. Dr. Williams, resident superintendent, tells me but little attempt is made to go away, for with plenty to eat and *rest* the negro considers he has a good thing and few desire a change.

The most prevalent type of insanity is dementia of varied kinds—congenital and acquired. Of general paralysis of the insane—very little, and but little violent acute mania. Tuberculosis is very common, owing to the unclean habits and crowded way the negroes live, but they are greatly benefitted by the open air residence and sanitary surroundings of the asylum.

The superintendent thinks the chief cause for the large preponderance of dementia is that as a mass theirs is a low type of mental development and there is not much to lose. Only a limited amount of labor is obtained from the patients, their strong point being *rest*.

It only costs about 22 cents a day to keep them, their diet being chiefly vegetable, porridge and soups and codfish. The fish is more used as a flavouring than an article of diet. It adds a piquancy to their soups, which is very much relished; they also have plenty of fresh fish from the harbour.

The death rate is about 6 per cent., not often reaching 8 per cent., and most common cause debility and tubercle. There is but very little surgery. The weather is warm, with a cool breeze from the sea at the asylum. A game of cricket with attendants and patients was very animatedly carried on. Dr. Williams say the negroes take to cricket because it is not work.

Arrangements are all carried out as in other asylums, and the floors being concrete the wards are cleaned out with the hose, as they have abundance of water. Canvas beds in a stout wooden frame is most used and no precaution need be taken to prevent suicide, the negro is not given that way. Tea is the most common beverage (it always means ginger tea) and coffee, but little China tea is used.

A. P. REID.

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