

question of this prominent politician rests the bitterest indictment of our inaction. What are the reasons that such a question can be asked, and arguments backed up with figures brought forward to prove its truth. When I looked into my figures for the year it proved just what I expected, out of two hundred and sixty admissions only some seventy odd, could by the wildest stretch of imagination be crowded into the curable class. Of these it may proudly be stated a large proportion recovered, as would be the case under almost any condition. What struck me was how many more would have been rescued had the conditions been ideal, rather than "the best that we could obtain under the circumstance." What struck me more forcibly still was, how many of those who were admitted in a hopelessly chronic state could have been cured, had they been taken in hand early in the day.

How can general medicine be helped, too, by our asylum system? The general physician cannot be brought in touch with it, nor can the asylum man get easily in touch with the one he should see much of. What must be demanded by medicine is, that hospital accommodation, at least as good as that of general hospitals, be provided for people suffering from psychoses, that Universities must have Psychiatric Clinics for the treatment of acute cases and the study of acute mental diseases.

The State has no greater responsibility than the care and cure of its insane. Medicine has no more important realm to conquer than that of Psychiatry, but until the physician comes to the aid of the psychiatrist and insists that the problems are really those of general medicine, we shall not succeed in what should be our aim to accomplish.

I have laboured long and hopefully in the psychiatric vineyard, have struggled against apparently hopeless odds, at times have seemed almost on the point of achieving what it should be any sincere man's aim to do, only to be shoved back when success appeared certain.