

APPENDIX No. 4

which are quite unusual, and the result is that when these men return there is very little to be done for them in what I would think is a proper way. You cannot care for them in the General Hospital, they cannot be cared for in the convalescent homes. Many of these cases are curable under proper treatment, and the only resource seems to be to send them to the asylum. That seems to be prejudicial, because it puts on them a stigma which they do not deserve—I do not attach that stigma to them, but the general public does, and it is a wrong thing that the man should be prejudiced by being admitted there, especially if he is a curable case. I have seen a good many of these returned soldiers and the conditions I observed are not the conditions ordinarily found in the asylum. They are new conditions, owing, as I say, not to ordinary causes. We cannot care for those cases in the General Hospital. One hates to say it, but our country is so far behind in the care of the insane that we should be almost ashamed of ourselves. We build up large general hospitals for the cure of acute diseases of all kinds, we spend enormous sums in the erection and equipment of the hospital over which I preside; the building alone cost nearly \$4,000,000; and yet we have not in the whole province, or in the Dominion, a proper hospital for the treatment of such cases as these curable cases in the early stages. The result is that we have to send them to the public asylum where they generally rank not as individuals, but as one of the herd. That is the fault of the system. Long ago I went to Europe as one of a commission to investigate the treatment of cases of this kind, and I thought we would have had an institution in Toronto for this purpose. We got \$100,000 to buy a site, but it never went through and it is hard to see the Americans doing what we should have done. They have established what are known as psychopathic hospitals, just for the care and treatment of these peculiar cases which are curable in the early stages. Taking Toronto as a basis, what have we there? We have one asylum for the population of the county of York and the city of Toronto, a combined population of over 500,000, with only one thousand beds. That does not meet the necessities at all. We should have an institution with 2,500 beds to meet the needs of that community. We have a little reception hospital which is not properly equipped and the result is a great many of these curable cases do not get the proper attention which a great many of the returned soldiers should have.

Mr. MACDONALD: What are the type of cases for which special treatment is required?

Dr. CLARKE: Intense nervous troubles, quite different from the ordinary case of which we always have a certain number. Many of these cases are too violent, they cannot be treated in the general hospital, and their whole recovery depends upon their being taken in hand and treated properly. My impression is that to meet the needs only of the province of Ontario a little institution equipped with fifteen or twenty beds would be sufficient. That institution would have to be equipped rather expensively.

Mr. MACDONALD: Would fifteen or twenty beds be sufficient?

Dr. CLARKE: Yes, because they will recover quickly if they are recoverable.

Mr. NESBITT: Is there not a place in Guelph which would meet the situation?

Dr. CLARKE: That is a private institution at which the patients would have to pay from \$30 to \$40 a week. In addition to that, this institution should be in the neighbourhood of some of the large hospitals where they would have access to the use of laboratories in connection with their cases. In modern medicine the laboratory is a most important part of the hospital and it is expensive to equip and to maintain. If we had an institution of that kind close to these larger hospitals they could have ready access to the laboratories.

The CHAIRMAN: What would be the expense of equipping such an institution?

Dr. CLARKE: Not more than \$20,000 to \$25,000.

The CHAIRMAN: What would be the annual upkeep?