

address before the British Science Association in Toronto last August, "that this, at least, stares us in the face, that changes in what we call the body bring about changes in what we call the mind. When we alter the one we alter the other."

We are not the only physicians in Canada who have had brought home to them by actual experience the relationship that exists between diseases of the organs of reproduction and mental derangements. Several independent observers have already placed on record sundry such cases that have occurred in their own private practice. Notable among these, I take the liberty of mentioning Dr. Holmes, of Chatham, who, in his thirty years of practice, had as many as twenty-four mental recoveries succeeding operations of this character.

Dr. Ernest Hall, of Victoria, B.C., not long ago examined a female patient in the asylum of that province who was suspected of having some lesions in the pelvis. Dr. Hall, who recommended operation, removed two fibro-cystic and adherent ovaries. The patient made a rapid recovery, both physically and mentally, and is now once more attending to her household duties after a residence of two years and eight months in an asylum as an apparently chronic hopeless lunatic.

Dr. Burgess, Superintendent of the Protestant Hospital for Insane, Montreal, reports having had to send three of his female patients to the Montreal General Hospital to be operated upon for utero-ovarian disease. All three patients were restored to mental and physical health as a sequence of the operation. Two of these cases and the one reported by Dr. Hall had fibro-cystic disease of the ovaries similar to that described in my own ovarian cases, and they afford certainly strong additional evidence of the causative relation of pelvic to mental disease.

In conclusion, I wish to say that I have no desire to magnify the value of surgery as a mode of treatment among the insane, nor do I want to claim that all the mental recoveries succeeding operation were due solely to its influence. I must emphatically state, however, that many of those who recovered their reason would not have done so without surgical interference. To hope to relieve these poor sufferers from both physical and mental derangements by simple incarceration and the well-nigh useless adjuncts of ordinary treatment, and to refuse these unfortunates the advantages which medical science offers to other women, is to reject the aids of modern science, to follow the methods of mediævalism, and to prefer to a modern hospital for the insane an old-time eighteenth century madhouse.