

2. A better knowledge of these diseases would result in the whole profession recognizing the necessity, for example, of hospitalization of asylums, and instead of the scanty number of specialists who are now endeavoring to bring about this good work, there would be a solid phalanx formed by the profession to the requests of which the government would be obliged to accede without delay.

3. To the nursing staff of a general hospital, instruction in such wards would be a great boon, since, frequent as these cases are in private practice, but little opportunity to learn the art of nursing them is afforded in a general hospital. As Church, in his recent work on Nervous Diseases, says in regard to the nursing of neurasthenia, "Any amount of general hospital training does not make a good nurse for this class of patients," hence the importance of further experience in nursing this form of disease.

4. By admitting patients into the wards of a general hospital on the lines suggested above, in Germany, any acute case of alleged insanity would at once be admitted without a certificate, on precisely the same conditions as though the patient were suffering from any other disease than that of the brain, and by this means the cruelty and injustice of taking these patients to a jail would be abolished. Under these conditions recourse to early treatment would be sought, since the prejudice against asylum treatment for a relative would be removed, and much better results would necessarily follow. The stigma, in the minds of the laity, of having been treated in an asylum would also be obviated. Further, the treatment of these patients in a general hospital, by the same methods as all other patients are treated (due allowance being made for the form of their disease), would gradually lead to a more rational view of insanity in the minds of the masses, and thus gradually overcome the prejudice against asylums.

5. A large proportion of suicides would be prevented since there is no doubt that many a sufferer from neurasthenia, who has without avail long sought aid to relieve him of his disease, has ultimately given up in despair, and some additional grief which in health would only have caused temporary depression, has under the circumstances turned the scale, and another suicide is added to the appalling list of those disasters published daily in the newspapers.

From an economic point of view the prevention of insanity in the poor merits the most careful attention of the State. Statistics at present are necessarily scanty. The results of the experiment in Glasgow were as follows: Between 1899 and June, 1904, 1,345 persons were admitted, of whom 1,052 were discharged recovered or relieved. Between June and December