

and making investigations in the various prisons, reformatories, industrial schools, and the community generally in their immediate neighborhood. Those Physician Superintendents and other members of the Medical Staffs with whom I have discussed the question, are unanimous in their approval, and say that it has added greatly to their interest in the work on the subject to get outside the old institution bounds, see for themselves, and help to solve the numerous social problems which mental disorders and defects bring in their train.

Psychological medicine is part of the curriculum of the Cape University medical course. The Physician Superintendent of Valkenburg has been appointed lecturer in this subject and the Mental Hospital becomes part of the teaching school of the University. It is probable that the Pretoria Mental Hospital will shortly be similarly related to the University of Johannesburg.

With regard to this matter, dealt with briefly in this paper, I hope you will agree that the lines on which the work is proceeding in South Africa are right and that the wider sphere of work for the Medical Staff in a subject having such great social significance, not only benefits them and gives them a better status, but leads to a broader view of their duties and makes their services progressively more useful and important to the community and the State.

The Government in South Africa has done very much indeed to help forward the work in this cause and it would be impossible to overstate what its progress owes to the work and never failing interest of the successive Ministers of the Interior, first the Hon. Abram Fischer, then Sir Thomas Watt and now Mr. Patrick Duncan, or to overestimate the value of the results achieved by the persistent energy, experience, breadth of view and understanding of Col. H. B. Shawe, the Permanent Head of the Department.

Mr. President, I am honoured more greatly than I express by the request you made to me to tell this Annual Meeting the position in South Africa as it affects those who have the misfortune to suffer from some or other form of mental defect or disorder—how South Africa is dealing with the question and how trending. I obeyed you, Sir, and with pleasure, as a member of the Association should, but I could wish that I were more worthy of the task. In conclusion, Gentlemen, I ask that you will render all that assistance which I know you can by your suggestions and helpful criticism.

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