

the sun's rays they are invariably protected by an opaque covering of hair, feathers, or skin pigmentation. It is only within a decade that anthropologists have discovered that the same law applies to man. It is now proved that in every part of the world the native type of man, who is adjusted to the climate, has an amount of pigmentation strictly in accordance with the amount of light to which he is exposed." The short rays have a more destructive effect upon invading organisms and a typical new cells than upon normal tissue, and because of this have a therapeutic influence, but if the light is too strong it injures normal tissue as well as abnormal.



Modern Treatment of Insanity At the sixth New York State Conference of Charities and Correction, Dr. William Mabon, president of the State Commission in Lunacy, discussed the care of the mentally defective. He referred to the value of occupation as an adjuvant to the treatment of the insane. In speaking of hospital treatment he announced that the Commission in Lunacy (of New York State) "proposes to urge upon the legislature, at its forthcoming session, the desirability of providing special appropriations for the construction of small acute hospitals, accommodating from sixty to eighty patients each, in connection with such of the existing state hospitals as are not at

the present time properly equipped for the care of acute cases. The absolute necessity of providing every possible facility for the care of curable patients, not to mention the true economy of such procedure, must be apparent to every novice in social economy." At the same meeting Dr. Bertha A. Rosenfeld made a strong plea for the care of the insane outside of special institutions. "Let us deplete the ever-growing supply of mental invalids to the big institutions," she said. "Let us prevent many acute cases from becoming chronic by giving them real care from the first." She argues for the establishment of mental wards in connection with general hospitals. This was done some years ago at the Albany Hospital, and strikingly good results have followed.



The Moving Picture in Medicine We have long been treated to lantern demonstrations of morbid conditions, and now the moving picture has been utilized to illustrate epileptic seizures. This novel method of illustration was introduced at a recently held meeting of the National Association for the Study of Epilepsy, held at New York Academy of Medicine. The pictures, numbering in all more than 37,000, were taken at the Craig Colony for Epileptics, at Sonyea, N. Y., and very accurately reproduced the various phases of actual epileptic