

treats this general problem upon the highest lines on the basis of the ultimate benefit which will accrue to mankind.

I perceive that the phrase "regardless of its budget" will cause sundry persons to raise their eyebrows; for there are still those amongst us (though happily the war has reduced their number) who place economics ahead of happiness, who place physics ahead of ethics, as the ancients had it. But it is not that the execution of these suggestions would overwhelm a state or provincial budget. They would not. The total expenditures for the higher measures of treatment of the insane and allied classes, form, as anyone can see who attentively reads the budgets, but a vanishingly small portion of the total outgo. But it is not my place to discuss budgets and the budgetary mind: those matters are always attended to by the type of person known the world over as the watch dog of the treasury—a type of mind in which the acquisitive instinct has found its greatest development and in which the constructive instinct lies in a state of comparative atrophy.

Has the psychopathic hospital idea made good the promises of its propounders? The idea now has a history of some fifty years, and there may be a score more or less of institutions in the world which conform to the ideals of what Weir Mitchell terms "the art and its assistive sciences" that have to do with the psychopath taken in his most general sense. A recent account of psychopathic hospital achievements the world over would require a thick volume. I shall confine myself to a very few statements from American experience, the most of which will be borrowed from the institution record with which I am most familiar, namely, that of the institution in Boston.

One of the most striking achievements of the Ann Arbor institution is one scarcely reducible to statistics. My old friend and former colleague, the director of the Ann Arbor psychopathic ward, Professor A. M. Barrett, familiar as he is with the psychiatric levels of at least three states of the union, tells me that quite a remarkable improvement in the general level of acquaintance by general practitioners concerning mental disease has been produced in Michigan as the result of turning out year after year, since 1906, medical graduates familiar with the practical clinical features of the cases seen in their medical school courses at the psychopathic ward. This ward, it must be remembered, is an integral part of the University of Michigan Hospital which operates as a teaching institution for the medical school of the university.

If there were no other single achievement of the Ann Arbor plant, this raising of the general level of the ordinary practitioner's