

formulated and elucidated in the last edition of the text-book on the "Etiology, Pathology and Treatment of Inebriety," by Dr. Norman Kerr. I find that this classical work is universally recognized as the standard authority on the subject of which it treats. I may add that the treatment recommended by Dr. T. D. Crothers, in *Hare's Practice of Medicine* is practically the same as that of Dr. Norman Kerr.

By carrying out the above recommendations there can be no question but that there would be a large number of inebriates reformed, there would be a large saving to the State, and the number to be provided for in the proposed farm colony for men would be very much reduced.

Some might say, "Well, granted that it is desirable that special medical treatment should be given to Central Prison inebriates, why not place the administering of said treatment in the hands of the regular prison surgeon?" In reply to this, I would say that in my judgment special treatment for inebriety would be far more successful when administered by a volunteer benevolent association, such as yours, than by a Government official. The good effect would be largely neutralized, I fear, by constituting it a part of prison routine. Inebriety is a disease of the mind as well as of the body. The will becomes paralyzed, and it is found that for the purpose of attaining the greatest success in treatment, both the intellectual, moral and emotional nature requires to be appealed to. I would suggest, say, once a month that a temperance meeting be held at the prison for the benefit of the prisoners, and after an address or two on temperance that the question of special medical treatment be introduced, and the conditions be fully explained. Before giving application, I would require each man to sign a card containing a formal application for treatment and an agreement to fulfil the conditions, including an agreement to accept the cost of treatment as a loan, to be returned as soon as able to do so.

With regard to the treatment of female inebriates, I would say that I presume that we are all of one mind with regard to the present illogical and ineffective plan of dealing with female habitual drunkards. We all realize the absurdity of sending these unfortunates to jail on thirty or sixty-day sentences. What I would recommend in these cases is as follows: Firstly, in the case of old offenders, to endeavor to bring pressure to bear upon the powers that be, to have these unfortunates sent to the Mercer Reformatory, either on maximum sentences of two years, or on the indeterminate sentence plan. In the interests of society and good morals, many of this class should be permanently secluded from society. This would be a kindness both to the unfortunate inebriate and to the community at large.

Secondly, with regard to young offenders, and perhaps also in the case of the more hopeful among old offenders, I would recommend that temporary accommodation be provided for such in connection with your Home for Girls, and that they be given the benefit of special medical treatment for their crave for strong drink. After about four weeks' treatment, they could be placed in situations on trial. In case of relapse, they should then, according to circumstances, either be given a second treatment, or turned over to the authorities, to be sent for a lengthened period to the Reformatory for Women.

To assist in defraying the necessary expense involved, I think you might confidently appeal both to the W. C. T. U. and also to the City Council.

In addition to these recommendations I would suggest the advisability of opening an inebriate department in all the general hospitals of the Province. To make this a success, however, would involve the appointment of a Government inspector, a medical man who has given the question of the treatment of inebriety a special study.