

Commissioner, in order that the contractor may receive instructions as to the work, and when done the Medical Superintendent will be good enough to see that all the levelling is done, so that the entire garden may be cropped next year.

The question of providing auxiliary pumping arrangements and water-supply for this Asylum again forces itself for settlement, in the fact that repairs to the pump, which cannot be made in less than a month, are urgently required. Meanwhile the possibility of a break-down must be provided for under any circumstances, as the interruption of an abundant supply of water, even for a single day, with a population of 1,000 souls, would be nothing short of a disaster. The necessity of immediate action will therefore again be pressed upon the Commissioner of Public Works.

The Medical Superintendent has recommended that he shall be allowed to open doors at the ends of the two lower corridors, so as to enable the occupants of those wards to pass out to the front grounds. Without expressing an opinion as to the extent to which "open or unlocked wards" may be safely worked in our present Asylum organization, I must record my entire sympathy with the most progressive ideas respecting the freedom of insane patients, and with the desire to reduce to the very lowest extent not only mechanical and chemical restraint, but also structural restraint. There is little doubt that the association of all classes of patients in the airing courts has an injurious effect upon the very quiet and convalescing class. Under these circumstances, and taking it for granted that the Medical Superintendent will make a personal selection of the patients to be placed in the wards whose doors it is proposed to open, he is authorized to make the openings.

Certain matters connected with the Bursar's department were inquired into and settled.