

APPENDIX.

TREATMENT OF INEBRIATES.

Extract from a paper prepared for the Canadian Conference of Charities and Correction, by D. Gilbert Gordon, M.D., Toronto.

For a number of years efforts have been made to induce the Ontario Government to take the matter up, but always on the plea of expense they have refused. Last year a committee of the Ontario Medical Association waited on the Premier of Ontario, the Hon. G. W. Ross, and presented a scheme which we thought was not only economical but efficient. This scheme was carefully worked out by Dr. Rosebrugh after a thorough study of the system in other parts as well as an examination into our own needs and means. The scheme roughly was as follows :

"In all cities of Ontario having a population of twenty thousand or over the Police Commissioners are empowered to appoint a probation officer to take the supervision of drunkards placed on probation by the court on suspended sentence. These officers are not to be members of the police force, and they are to act more in the capacity of friendly visitors than as informers. They will also assist the probationer in finding employment when necessary. It will also be their duty to investigate, for the information of the court, the previous records of all such arrested for drunkenness, and to keep records of all such investigations and also of all cases placed on probation. In cases where a fine has been imposed by the court, this fine may be paid in instalments to the probation officer while the person is on probation.