

with detailed information respecting the number of admissions and discharges, the condition of patients when discharged, their nativity, age, occupation, civil condition, cause of disease, how committed, form of disease, recoveries, cause of death, etc., etc.

Touching the subject of the cost of maintenance, it might be well to advance a few remarks, although at the period of writing the statement of accounts is not sufficiently matured to enable us to say exactly what the cost per capita for 1891 was. We have always been, and are still, fully alive to the necessity of strict economy so far as it is in consonance with efficiency of service.

This institution has always run very close in the line of frugality, and indeed it has earned, or held, at all events, the doubtful distinction of maintaining its people, i. e., its officers, employes and patients, at the very minimum of cost, notwithstanding the pleasantries gentlemen have sometimes favored us with in our legislative forum.

We are quite ready to supply the proof of our presentation of this matter should it be considered desirable; but it may be observed that this is a question that has two sides and therefore what might be grateful to the ultra economist might not be pleasant for those who happen at the time to have relatives or friends guests of the institution.

I am safe in saying, however, for the comfort of those who are most interested in the well-being of our people, that the cost of maintenance is not likely to ever be less per capita per annum than it has been in the past. In fact it may be stated pretty positively that the cost will be more, and for the best of reasons, viz: that the patients must have now-a-days better fare, a greater variety of food and of better quality, and more expensive service and care. Neither the patients, their friends, nor the public generally will be willing to tolerate a mean diet table, and none of these will consent to have a weak or inefficient attendance for care. Such fare and service as might have been considered tolerable 15 to 25 or more years ago would not be acceptable to-day—and it may be added that the man or the woman either who has not been made aware that the cost of living has everywhere increased year by year must have been getting his or her nourishment from pap or ambrosia, and therefore unconscious of what has been going on in the world in relation to this department of domestic economy.

The Annex—In former reports covering the past five or six years we have had a good deal to say in reference to the annex and its affairs. On the present occasion, and probably in the future, it will devolve upon us to have much less to put forth, for the reasons in the first place that its organization and operation are now accomplished facts, and in the second place because its general management, although under the supervision of the Medical Superintendent comes more especially under the control of the Steward.

I may say in a general way that much work has been done there during the year, and not only that which was necessary to secure a large crop of agricultural products for immediate use, but much has been accomplished in the way of improvement upon the farm to assure greater productiveness in the future, chiefly by means of draining, fertilization, &c.

A Silo for the preservation of Ensilage was built in the last year, and the product of its saving is now being used for the stock with satisfactory results.

The crop cultivated for this purpose was southern corn, and a mixture of oats and vetches. The former is by far the more productive, yielding from 15 to 20 tons per acre—one half an acre, the corn on which was weighed, produced 11 tons.

The sort of Silo adopted, and its situation in relation to the barn and the stock, we think are well ordered and well worthy of examination by those intending to build and not having had experience.

The subject of Silos and Ensilage is an important one to the agriculturists of this province, and though but few of them so far have availed themselves of this method of accumulating fodder from a small area of land, it is hoped that they will before long do so, because if they are to compete successfully with, for instance, the Province of Ontario, they must like Ontario, adopt methods that will supply cheaper fodder for their stock. And it appears to have been proven by the labors upon our Experimental Farms beyond any reasonable doubt that the judicious use of Ensilage will cheapen food rations for

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