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THE TREATMENT OF INEBRIETY*

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To the Members of the Toronto Clinical Society.

GENTLEMEN,—By the courtesy of your President I was invited to read a paper at this meeting of your Society and have taken as my subject the treatment of inebriety, but as it will not be right to occupy much of your time, I will confine myself to the treatment of alcoholism, and not touch on that of morphine and other narcotics. As resident physician at Lakehurst Sanitarium, Oakville, I will try briefly to outline the course of treatment we adopt in alcoholic cases. In the first place let me make it clear that we do not depend on any so-called specifics or nostrums of the kind, as we all know that secret remedies and formulæ are simply impositions and appeals to ignorance.

The continued use of alcohol to excess sets up certain changes in the system, and, according to Payne, the poisonous effects in alcoholism of the chronic variety are manifested

I. As an acute narcotic poison.

* Read at meeting of Toronto Clinical Society, February 7th, 1900, by special invitation.