

widening experience. Hitherto the Governmental policy has been to provide little or no equipment for study, and so to limit the number of physicians that the greater part of their time is taken up with clerical duties. The numbing effect of such routine work is great, and might well make the average assistant adopt the words of Mr. Mantalini and pronounce life "one demd horrid grind."

Before we can properly enter on the study of psychiatry, as we ought to do, our Governments must learn that to make a hospital a center of scientific research its physicians should be appointed from the best class of men; should be paid sufficiently well to free them from anxiety as to their future livelihood; should be certain of promotion if they prove themselves fitted therefor; should be assured of a retiring allowance, graduated on length of service as is the case in England and other trans-atlantic countries; should be freed from an overburden of routine work; and should be provided with books, apparatus, and assistance to properly pursue their researches.

Much more might be said on this and other subjects relating to the care of the insane in Canada, for example, the necessity of separate hospitals for acute cases and of pavilions connected with general hospitals, of nurses' homes, and of retiring allowances for medical and other officers, but I fear you will already have applied to me the old Spanish saying anent a tedious writer: "He leaves no ink in his inkpot." I shall, therefore, no longer trespass on your forbearance, but content myself by saying in conclusion, that while with respect to custodial care and ordinary treatment, moral and medical, Canada, generally speaking, is well up to the times, she is doing little toward the solution of the many problems connected with the scientific aspects of insanity. In this respect she presents but a sorry picture when compared with the good work being done in many hospitals elsewhere. To stand still is to fall behind. The universal motto should be:

"Press on—' for in the grave there is no work
And no device.'—Press on while yet ye may."