

a political debt must be paid. That such a state of affairs need only be brought home to each voter in Ontario to bring about a cure, is obvious. Do you want men who are qualified by years of special training and study to carry on the great work of inquiring into the causes of insanity, and, if possible, adopting measures as preventive agents, or do you want men who are not fitted because of lack of training, and whose only qualification is the badge of political service?

New York State, for long years recognized the world over as being in the front rank in the treatment of her insane from the humanitarian and scientific standpoint, has understood this, and has adopted the rule as laid down, that no man, however brilliant, or whatever his political value may be, can attain the position of superintendent until he has been in the service five years at least as assistant physician.

Ontario pays enormous sums each year to maintain her hospitals for the insane, but *the people of Ontario are not getting what they are paying for* while asylum appointments are political gifts.

Suitable men for promotion may always be found, but so long as promotion in the asylum service is as rigidly tabooed as political freedom in Russia just so long will satisfactory work not be done, so long will asylums not be conducted on the most modern lines, and a disease as far-reaching in its evil effects as the white plague will go on unchecked.

The establishment of a non-political Lunacy Commission, and the institution of civil service examinations, would not only lead to inestimably better work being done, but would be actually a matter of saving money for the people of Ontario. If the people insist on having what has proven to be the best and cheapest, if they insist on asylum reform, they can have it. They pay for the best, but at the present time the patronage committee says they cannot have it. Who is going to finally win out, the small group of politicians, who have absolutely no interest in the situation other than personal gain; or the great body of taxpayers who make and unmake Governments, and who can demand that they be given what they have paid for?

The question awaits the answer of the voter, because he is the only one the politician heeds. He must speak and speak plainly—demand asylum reform. Do you want to have the most that possibly can be done for your own relative, or friend, who is afflicted? If so, you have only to speak, and the Gov-