

should be represented by those alone who are qualified to express its judgments. Nowadays the number of psychological amateurs within and without the medical professional, is legion. At a time when a united front is essential their fruitless controversies over and over again confuse the issue.

Your Committee would call attention to the good work done by the Provincial Association for the Care and Training of Mental Defectives, and of the Canadian National Committee on Mental Hygiene, and also to the organization of the Medico-Psychological Association of Ontario, and would commend these three organizations to the favorable consideration and support of the Medical Association.

Finally, your Committee would draw attention to the great importance of the Education of Public Opinion about the work of Mental Hospitals.

The time is at hand for a great advance in the care and treatment of patients suffering from mental diseases. Public opinion demands it, the medical profession have long felt that such an advance is not only possible and desirable but imperative if any adequate consideration is given to the matter from the standpoint of the best interests of the patient, the public and the profession.

If this advance is to take place the first step is to take the public into our confidence and tell them what is needed, and why. Before we do this we must reform our own ranks and look to our own weapons for the campaign of education. We must be fully persuaded in our minds. If we are to arouse enthusiasm in others, we must possess it ourselves, and if we are to show others the way we must first make the new road ourselves.

First of all, then, what can be done to raise the status of our Mental Hospitals in the estimation of the community? Let us take as an illustration the Nursing Department. A great deal has been done in the past to improve the status and work of this Department. The course of study, the examinations, the award of certificates to the successful candidates, the payment of probationers and nurses, all established some years ago, were great steps in advance and a corresponding advantage has been gained by the Mental Hospitals.

Among the Nursing Sisters who went overseas on the strength of No. 16 Canadian General Ontario Military Hospital at Orpington we are told that none did better work than the nurses from the Training Schools of the Ontario Mental Hospitals. Of course, the credit of that good work is not all to be given to the Training Schools any more than the glory of mighty deeds of valour and endurance of our heroes in the Can-