

simple ideas of right conduct; he is given instruction in manual labour; he is taught carpentering, printing, brick-making, stock raising, farming, domestic work, the manufacture of clothing, boots and shoes, brooms and brushes and other industries. Even with the very lowest grades of idiocy to whom custodial administrations are apparently the only form of care that can be given, even such cases can at times be taught to wait on themselves and give some attention to personal cleanliness and habits of order so that a fair number of them become less troublesome and disgusting. All of these measures, needless to say, mean greater economy to the state.

As it is my intention only to speak of the feeble-minded, to point out to you in their treatment the beginning of Occupational Therapy, I leave this branch of insanity which would require one or many papers to speak intimately of the progress of medical science in ameliorating their condition. I cannot, however, abandon this cursory glance of the relation of Occupational Therapy to the feeble-minded without calling your attention to the fact that just as French medical science did so much for the world and the American Continent in particular through the efforts of Dr. Seguin in 1846 in this division of medical research, so again in 1911 we find French genius in the persons of Drs. Binet and Simon returning to the problem of the feeble-minded by their system of examination of the intellectual level of children from the ages of 3 to 15. Their system of mental tests were speedily adopted on this continent and to-day form the chief basis of the various surveys made, and being made upon school children and defectives throughout Canada and the United States.

I think you will agree with me that in all intellectual pursuits we learn that knowledge is the forerunner of interest, interest of activity and from activity practical results arise, that mental idleness breeds pessimism, pessimism paralyses effort and without effort progress is impossible. That is why in the treatment of disease, no matter how simple or new the methods may appear, providing any results have been obtained therefrom, we should immediately investigate and apply them. And as good results have followed the usage of Occupational Therapy elsewhere in the case of the mentally afflicted, we should endeavour to study and apply its effects in our own institutions in a more scientific manner than has hitherto prevailed. What better means have we of forming an opinion of the value of an individual to himself or the community than by the study of the sum of his intellectual and physical activities. Herein lies the best avenue for us to follow towards his understanding.

Equally do I hope that in the evolution of Occupational Therapy in the setting in a scientific manner of the patient's mind and body, to work or play, we shall, degree by degree, better be able to observe,