

subject as the sanest, at least until their "fad" is touched, when everything becomes mentally awry, and if their minds can be kept from the subject upon which they are insane the most astute cannot detect their mental peculiarities. For this type and indeed for all who are at all capable of working in any form, employment is one of the most beneficial forms of treatment. For this reason and on the grounds of economy of maintenance the inmates of our Asylums are kept as closely employed as possible.

The Toronto Asylum.

At the Toronto Asylum, with its seven hundred odd patients, the general form of employment is a type of that prevailing in all the other Institutions. The females are employed in all sorts of domestic work for which they are fitted, cooking, laundrying, sewing and mending, and knitting their own garments and stockings. The men are furnished employment in the various trades they practiced in the world—thus smiths make and mend the tins used in the Institution, shoemakers and tailors ply their trades in the interests of the inmates and employment in gardening, trimming the lawns, grounds, etc., is provided for those not adapted to any particular mechanical calling. At the other Institutions the same general employment is provided for many of the inmates, but at those with large farms attached, as most of them have, the inmates are employed more largely in work connected with the tilling of the soil. It is not generally known that at some of the Asylum farms there is carried on perhaps the most successful and profitable intensive farming on the continent, as will be conceded when it is pointed out that the average profit per acre of the farm of 186 acres under cultivation at the London Asylum, is \$41.20. This, as it would appear to the most successful farmer, abnormal average, especially considering the number of acres tilled, is due amongst other reasons to the fact that this farm is the oldest and has been longest under fertilizing treatment. The

convenience to the city for manure supply, the utilization of the Institution sewage, with the careful and thorough cultivation largely by the labour of the inmates, account for so large a profit. The double benefit derived consists in the utilization of the labour of inmates for the reduction of the expenses of maintenance and the beneficial effects upon the general and mental health of the inmates.

Farming Operations.

The profits of the farm at Hamilton, where 225 acres are under cultivation, is less than at London being \$37.05 per acre because the farm has not been so long subjected to fertilizing cultivation, but is not less carefully and skilfully tilled. It is however an average with which any farmer would be satisfied. The yield at the Mimico farm (220 acres) is still less per acre, the average being only \$23.20, but even this is creditable when it is remembered that this is a newer farm still and that the soil is not of high-class quality. It will be recollected that Mimico was selected by the late Sandfield Macdonald as a site for the Agricultural College; but it was found that the soil was too poor for the purpose and the college was removed to Guelph.

At the Kingston Asylum, there are 124 acres of nominally farm lands. The soil, however, is of too little depth on the rock substratum to very successfully permit of profitable farming operations, especially in dry seasons.

The Brockville Asylum farm contains 211 acres, generally not very well adapted for farming, but more suitable for pasturage. These conditions do not, however, prevent a fair net profit from farming operations of over \$1,500 a year at Brockville and over \$1,000 per year at Kingston. At the Orillia Institution for the feeble-minded there is a fair profit derived from the 85 acres devoted to farming, of which 42 is pasturage. The net profits last year amounted to \$3,778.68.

At all the Institutions more or less live stock is maintained. Altogether cows to the number of 240 are kept for the supply