

to that of private individuals. Even if State inspection were well carried out, which cannot be guaranteed, only the more apparent abuses could be guarded against. The management of the institution would still be carried out in accordance with the particular views and wishes of those who were in charge and, as a rule, to the disadvantage of the patients."

Following the publication of Dr. Tuke's article, the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Montreal held a meeting, at which, among others, the following resolutions were unanimously passed:—

"That the 'farming out' or 'contract' system either by private individuals or by private corporations has been everywhere practically abandoned, as being prejudicial to the best interests of the insane, and producing the minimum of cures.

"That, in the opinion of this Society, all establishments for the treatment of the insane should be owned, directed, controlled and supervised by the Government itself, without the intervention of any intermediate party."

Spite of these and other vigorous protests the system remains unchanged, and before Quebec can be counted in the foremost line, where it ought to be, the province must own as well as supervise its institution for the dependent insane.

One outcome of the furore excited was, however, the founding of the Protestant Hospital for the Insane, an incorporated charitable institution, which, while paid by the Government for the maintenance of public Protestant patients, is safeguarded by the leading clause in its charter of constitution. This stipulates that the conduct of the establishment shall be vested in a board of management elected by the governors, and that all moneys received by the corporation, from whatever source, shall be expended upon the institution and its inmates. As a matter of fact, ever since the opening of the hospital, the per capita cost of public patients therein has not been less than fifty per cent. more than the Government allowance for their keep, the difference having been made up by the revenue derived from private patients and the bequests of the charitably disposed.

The Province of Nova Scotia, though possessed of as well managed a State asylum as could be desired, is yet behindhand in that it has, since 1886, sanctioned the erection of county asylums, and, in many cases, combined county asylums and poorhouses. To these can be transferred the harmless insane from the provincial institution, and to them can be sent direct idiots, non-violent epileptics, and cases of chronic insanity