

least, be realized. In addition to the reception of acute cases any patient in other parts of the institution who showed by his improved condition that still further improvement might be expected from the better facilities for treatment, for nursing and for individual care was at once transferred to the hospital.

The first principle impressed upon patient and nurse alike is that the patient is ill, suffering from a disease of the brain, the organ that is responsible for all thought, observation, conduct, and action, and that the individual who does not think, observe, and act as a normal person should in his station of life, is suffering from a disease of this organ in one of its various forms. This fact being insisted upon demands as its natural outcome that every means shall be employed for the relief of that disease, requiring energy and sympathy on the part of the nurse, and a measure of co-operation on the part of the patient. Each patient, on entering the Hospital, is put to bed, and remains there for a variable length of time, depending on the acuteness of the disease. He is under the constant supervision of the nurse who notes every symptom, and does all possible to promote his well being and comfort.

The first consideration in the treatment of an acute psychosis is rest. How is this to be obtained? Experience shows that a reliance on the use of sedative and hypnotic drugs, where the disease lasts for any length of time, is one of the most baneful practices in psychiatry. In an institution where these are freely used one can frequently gauge the dosage by the disturbed condition of the patients. The open air treatment combined with suitable hydrotherapeutic measures will secure rest and quiet in the great majority of cases. It is a matter of common observation, where an acute psychosis has, prior to admission, been treated by narcotic drugs and physical restraint in the vain effort to subdue excitement, that a cathartic and a warm bath will frequently cause

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