

hundred. In other civilized communities the same proportion holds. We may say, therefore, that there is one dependent to every one hundred of the population, or, counting that only one-third of the population works, the male and a few female adults, and adolescents, there is one dependant to be supported by about thirty of the working population. In New York State during the year ending October 1st, 1906, there were in the State Hospitals for the Insane 26,357 patients. Practically all the expense of keeping this immense army of incompetents was borne by the general taxpayers, and the amount which they cost during the year was about \$6,000,000. If we count that the average earning capacity of the individual is approximately \$200 a year, a very low figure, I believe, it will be seen that the State loses every year this amount as well as the amount it costs to maintain the hospitals. Each year, then, the loss from unproductiveness is about \$5,200,000, which must be added to the \$6,000,000 actually paid out by the State for the expenses of the hospitals. It has been calculated that for every insane person discharged from the hospitals cured, the State saves \$2,000. It is almost a truism, therefore, to say that it will pay the State to appropriate sufficient money for the investigation of the problems of insanity from all possible points of view. Even if our studies can only have as their outcome the reduction in the length of attacks by as little as a week there is enough at stake to make the venture worth trying. It is not only possible but extremely probable that the investigations will give us not only valuable means of diagnosis and of prognosis, but they will eventually lead to the other practical problems of therapy and prophylaxis.

We have before us at the present time some of the same problems that faced the psychiatrists of fifty years ago. The material side of the insane hospital has been worked over, and we may say that it has been success-