

the windows, in which, Dr. Diller informed me, cases of doubtful diagnosis could be observed until such time as the course of the disease made this quite clear. Dr. Diller further assured me that the treatment of these acute nervous and mental diseases in this general hospital had, after fifteen years' experience, proved entirely satisfactory. The reports of Pavilion F., of the Albany General Hospital, in which all forms of mental and nervous disease are received, are highly gratifying, as may be judged by a letter to Dr. Mosher, the physician in charge, from Arnold E. Smith, of the St. Lawrence State Hospital, on receipt of the first annual report. He writes: "I desire to congratulate you on the results of the first year of Pavilion F. How ideas grow and develop! How slowly and yet how surely the progress! One hundred and seventy-four mentally ill people have come *voluntarily* to the Albany Hospital for help which otherwise, as a rule, except for your Pavilion F., they would have been unable to obtain without being officially declared 'insane;' and you have demonstrated that over one hundred of the number did not deserve that mark. If nothing more, this is enough to justify your project," etc. I will not detain you with further details, but I hope sufficient has been said to demonstrate that if we are to maintain a standard in this branch of medicine in Ontario equal to what exists in other countries, such wards in general hospitals are an absolute necessity.

With the establishment of these wards in general hospitals there would result at least the following:

- (1) The prevention of insanity in at least 50 per cent. of the cases admitted sufficiently early, thus affording relief to the already overcrowded asylums.

- (2) Better clinical instruction to the medical student. I would like here to quote what that excellent authority, Sir John Batty Tuke, says in regard to the value of such wards for clinical instruction, viz., "That clinical instruction in an asylum is all very well, but it is not worth argument, to show the infinitely greater advantage that would accrue to all students, were such wards open to them in general hospitals." Here the student could be shown these cases in his daily routine of work, and be able to study these diseases of the brain just as he studies in a neighboring ward diseases of the lungs or of the heart.

- (3) A better knowledge of these diseases would result in the whole profession recognizing the necessity, for example, of hospitalization of asylums, and instead of the scanty number of specialists who are now endeavoring to bring about this good work, there would be a solid phalanx formed by the profession, to the requests of which the government would be obliged to accede without delay.

- (4) To the nursing staff of a general hospital, instruction in